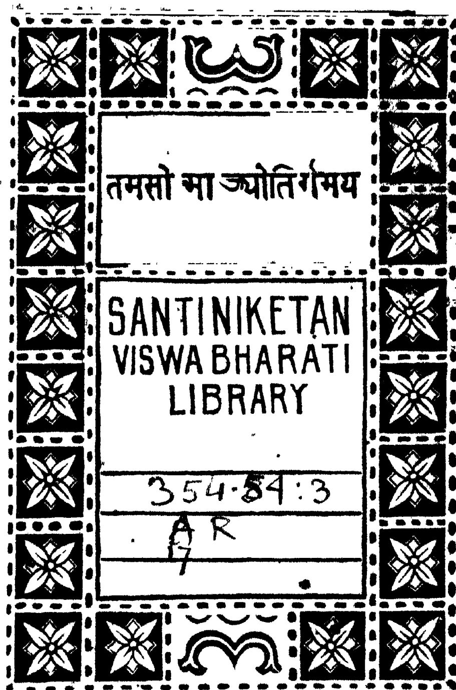

तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय
SANTINIKETAN
VISWA BHARATI
LIBRARY
354.54:3
AR
7

Published by order of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar.

Baroda Administration Report 1916-1917



BOMBAY
THE TIMES PRESS
1918

HUZUR CUTCHERY,
Baroda, 1st June 1918.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to submit the Administration Report of the Baroda State for the official year 1916-17.

The year was prosperous and the financial condition of the State was satisfactory.

Your Highness' ideas about the advancement of Local Self-Government in the villages and towns, and of consolidating the foundations of Primary Compulsory Education, of advancing Female Education and of securing the physical well-being of the children attending the schools are being slowly materialised.

The problem of re-organising the Sanitary Department is also taken up and more attention paid to the work of improving conditions of public health both in rural and urban areas.

The Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition held at Baroda in January 1917 proved a great success and had a great educative value.

The Great War in Europe, however, still dominates the whole situation. Many intended improvements are held up; Railway extensions and large public works of utility, water works and drainage schemes have to be postponed and schemes of industrial expansion have to hang fire till the restoration of normal times and of normal facilities for transport.

Baroda has loyally continued to render every help to the British Government for the successful prosecution of the World War and the resources of the State are being freely utilised for this great end.

I have the honour to be,
Your Highness' most obedient servant,
MANUBHAI NANDSHANKAR,
Dewan.

CONTENTS

V.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

VI.—INDUSTRIES.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS

VIII.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

IX.—MEDICAL RELIEF, VITAL STATISTICS, Etc.

Summary of the Administration Report for 1916-17

1. The State of Baroda comprises an area of 8,182 square miles and is divided into four Divisions. The total population according to the Census of 1911 was 20,32,798, of whom the majority are Hindus. More than fifty per cent. of the population is engaged in exploitation of the surface of the earth.

Area and Population

2. The administration is carried on by His Highness the Maharaja with the aid of the Minister and two Naib Dewans. These three latter officers with one or two additional members form the Council.

Administration

3. The Legislative Council is composed of 26 members including the Minister who is the President. The Council met only once during the year and discussed among others five important bills.

Legislative Council

4. The Huzur Nyaya Sabha is the highest tribunal in civil and criminal matters and is composed of the Legal Remembrancer, a Judge of the Varisht Court not connected with the case and the Huzur Kamdar. This Bench disposed of a larger number of appeals than in the preceding year.

The Huzur Nyaya Sabha.

5. The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat, consisting of the Huzur Kamdar, an Officer appointed by His Highness and a member of the Royal Family, is the highest appeal court in administrative matters.

Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat

6. Their Highnesses were at Kashmere for the first two months of the year. His Highness then visited Delhi to attend the Princes' Conference and there he addressed the meeting on behalf of all the Ruling Chiefs. The summer of 1917 was

Movements of their Highnesses.

spent in Ootacamand and on their way back, Their Highnesses stayed a few days at Poona as the guests of H. E. the Governor of Bombay. His Highness toured within the Raj visiting Sinore, Bhadran, and Naosari where he interviewed the local officials and leading gentlemen. At Bhadran he performed the opening ceremony of three public institutions.

Foreign relations.

7. The relations with the British Government and the neighbouring Indian States continued to be cordial and satisfactory. A number of reciprocal arrangements were arrived at with British India and various Indian States in regard to service of non-compulsory processes, extradition of criminals, mutual waiver of maintenance and conveyance charges in extradition cases, etc. Several officers of Baroda were deputed to Madras, Bombay and Mysore to study various problems and they were all treated with courtesy and afforded necessary facilities.

War Contributions

8. In addition to the contributions mentioned in previous Reports, a lakh of Rupees were contributed to the Imperial Indian War Relief Fund; 206 Sowars were deputed to Muttra for training remounts; the Jaya Mahal Palace at Bombay was lent for use as an Hospital for Officers; and one Military officer was granted leave and his services utilised by the Remount Department at Muttra. The State purchased War Loan Bonds of Rupees thirty-two lakhs and also bonds of the further value of Rupees thirty-eight lakhs by conversion of old Government Promissory Notes.

Distinguished visitors.

9. Among distinguished visitors to Baroda may be mentioned Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon, His Highness the Raja Saheb of Cochin and His Highness the Maharaja of Alwar.

The Army.

10. The actual strength of the Army and the total cost of maintaining it were less than in the previous year. The average cost per effective

unit was about Rs. 30 per mensem. Owing to a large number of vacancies, the men of some Regiments were spread over and amalgamated with the others. The salaries of staff and field officers were revised.

Legislation.

11. Sixteen acts and 49 sets of rules were published, all the acts being amending measures. Hitherto all capital sentences and those of transportation required confirmation of His Highness. By one of the amendments these powers, except of banishment, have been delegated to the Varisht Court.

Infant Marriage Act

12. There was a larger number of applications for exemption from the operation of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act with a smaller percentage of rejections. The number of offences likewise was on the increase, the backward classes unfortunately showing as yet no change for the better.

Civil Cases

13. Both the file and disposal of civil suits were larger than in the previous year and yet the number of suits pending at the end of the year was on the increase. Among ordinary suits, those relating to money matters and among small causes, those relating to contracts were by far the largest number. The duration in ordinary non-contested suits was less than in the previous year, while in the small causes it was almost the same. A larger number of Darkhasts was filed and a correspondingly larger number was disposed of but the average duration was nearly double that of the previous year. The appeal file was on the decrease.

Village Munsiffs and the Conciliators.

14. Although there was a smaller file before the Village Munsiffs, the arrears were larger and the duration longer than in the year before. The system of Conciliators was in force in 26 Talukas and as an experiment it was declared optional in

six places with the result that 50 per cent. of the suits were filed before them, while the rest went to the regular courts. The file and disposal were heavier in the year under report than in the previous year.

Village Panchayats with Judicial powers

15. There were 89 Village Panchayats invested with certain Judicial powers against 160 in the preceding year. The decrease was due to there being no recommendation for the renewal of these powers in the Kadi District. The result was that there was a smaller file The disposal was more in favour of the plaintiffs as in the preceding year

Possessory suits

16. The number of possessory suits was more with a proportionate disposal

Criminal file

17. Criminal cases were also more abundant as compared with the previous year with a proportionate disposal. 42 per cent. of the offences as against 49 per cent. in the previous year were against person and property. The percentage of convictions was more than in the preceding year. There were 2 capital sentences as against 5 Sentences of imprisonment were on the decline, while punishment by fines was more common. The criminal appeals were larger with 62 per cent of confirmations

Inamdars with Judicial powers.

18. There were 10 Inamdars as against 11 with powers to dispose of criminal cases. Of these only 6 did any work, having between them 16 cases, of which 14 were disposed of.

Pleaders.

19. The number of pleaders and Mukhtyars rose from 379 to 417, of whom 4 were Barristers-at-law and 116 LL. B.'s.

Receipts and expenditure.

20. The total receipts from Civil and Criminal Courts were Rs. 4,26,859 with an expenditure of Rs. 4,70,469.

21. There was little variation in the Police establishment. The percentage of literate men showed a very slight increae. The figures of punishments though larger than last year's were compensated by a corresponding increase in the number of rewards. One case of serious misconduct ended in the dismissal of the delinquent Police Officer. The slight increase in the number of offences reported to the Police was only a normal fluctuation. The fall in the percentage of the value of property recovered was due to the alleged theft of a valuable pearl necklace being undetected in the Baroda District. There was a little variation in the number of false cases, but the undetected offences declined by about 1 per cent. The bad livelihood cases were worked out by the C. I. D. with successful results.

Police

22 There was no change in the number of jails and lock-ups. There was a decrease in the number of jail admissions in spite of a heavier criminal file. This was apparently due to the punishment of fines being more common 16 per cent. of the convicts were literate.

Prisons

23. A more prosperous year, on the heels of a quasi-famine, accounts for the increase in the number of documents registered and a proportionate increase in the receipts. The improved salaries of the subordinate staff were responsible for the slight increase in the expenditure. About 91 per cent. of the total number of documents registered related to mortgages and sales of immovable property.

Registration.

24. Two more companies were registered, one of them being a commercial bank. Most of the companies sent their returns in time. Three dormant companies were sent into liquidation. The number of benevolent societies remained unchanged.

Joint-stock Companies and Benevolent Societies

25. The year began with 88 wards and closed with 87 under Government management. Their properties amounted to nearly 21 lakhs of rupees with an annual income of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Investments were carefully made.

Wards

26. A new department was created with the designation of Ecclesiastical Department for controlling the temples and public charities, Sanskrit Pathshalas, Purohits' Class, and religious education in general. It also dealt with Sanskrit, oriental and archæological research. The number of institutions under Government management remained unchanged. The properties belonging to these were valued at over 19 lakhs of rupees. Each institution has its budget and any expenditure beyond that is met out of the Reserve Fund, while the General Fund consisting of the net savings of all the institutions is meant-for religious and charitable objects of public utility, such as dispensaries, orphanages, etc. Seven itinerant preachers went from village to village explaining social and religious questions on liberal and advanced lines. Owing to the demise of Shree Shankaracharya Madhava Tirtha of Dwarka, a successor was appointed in the person of Shri Shantyanand Saraswati who was installed on 5th June 1917 with all State honours.

Ecclesiastical Department

27. This Department is divided into 10 branches in accordance with its threefold functions of audit, accounts and finance. The statements of estimated receipts and expenditure are received by the Accountant-General who submits them to Government after scrutinizing them The total receipts amounted to a little over two crores and two lakhs showing an increase of about 11 lakhs over those of the preceding year, which was one of partial famine. The expenditure was a little over one crore and fifty-five lakhs. The financial position of the State was stronger this year by about 47-lakhs as

Finance (Gross revenue, etc)

compared with the last. The State reserve in the form of liquid assets was augmented by 34 lakhs.

Land Revenue

28. The rainfall being nearly equal to the decennial average, the harvests were bountiful and the collections were not far short of the demand, the percentage of recovery being nearly 99 per cent. The excessive rain in Kadi, however, at the close of the season damaged the Kharif crops and old arrears could not be well realised. Excepting sales of land, most of the coercive measures showed a decrease The sales were due to the recalcitrancy of the Banias who were mortgagees in possession of the lands. More land remained under cultivation during the year. The collections of local cess and income-tax were also more successful than in the previous year, being about 98 per cent. and 97 per cent. respectively.

Attached estates

29 The year closed with 344 estates under attachment against 351 the year before. Of these, 91 were estates mortgaged to Government for loans and 87 were managed under the Guardian and Wards Act. The collection of arrears and current dues was much better than in the previous year.

Compensation

30. 2,486 cases of compensation for land measuring 2,393 Bighas were disposed of. The compensation awards consisted of Rs. 75,740 in cash, Rs 27 in Kothali Santh and 72 Bighas of land in exchange. Rs 27,524 were given for property other than land.

Boundaries

31. Three of the Jaspur cases were decided in favour of our Government by the Commissioner, Northern Division, and in 3 cases of riparain disputes the award of the Resident as arbitrator was in accordance with our contention. The verification work with the British Districts and Indian States continued to be satisfactory.

32. The Rajputana-Malwa Line was remeasured according to the recommendations of Col. Rose and 29 miles of the Mehsana-Taranga Line were demarcated. During the year 247 Bighas were relinquished by the Railway Company as a result of the demarcation.

Railway demarcation.

33 The excise revenue which amounted to nearly 22·69 lakhs was more than that of the previous year by about 2·33 lakhs due to increased rates of duty and to the fixed fee system of licensing shops. The actual number of shops which remained open was 1,086, showing a decrease of 29 over the preceding year. The number of offences detected and convicted showed a decline as compared with the last year, when prosecutions under the new Mahuda Act were abundant.

Excise

34. The manufacture of opium is a State monopoly on the Bengal system As the export to China has been stopped, poppy was cultivated only in two Talukas—Sidhpur and Kheralu The net revenue from the sale of opium in the State was about 2·56 lakhs showing an increase of about Rs 37,000 over the previous year and yet the consumption was smaller. The raising of the issue rate from Rs. 16 to Rs. 17-8-0 per seer was largely responsible for the enhanced revenue.

Opium

35 Customs and port dues brought in a revenue of 1·33 lakhs of rupees against a little less than a lakh in the previous year, the increase being principally due to the revised tariff which has levied duty on ghee and other articles of foreign territory exported from our ports.

Customs and port dues

36. The amount for the manufacture of salt continued to be as poor as in the past, as valuable salt resources in Okha and Kodinar are

Salt.

being wasted owing to prohibition on the export of salt to any outside port in India.

Stamps

37. The revenue from sale of stamps showed a substantial increase, while the expenditure on account of stamps a decline. The heavy civil file and the larger number of documents executed were responsible for the rise in revenue.

Barkhali

38. Three villages were totally and one partially resumed, while "Vadharo" was levied on five. Maintenance allowance was granted to the holders of the villages totally resumed and a lump sum to the holder of the partially resumed village. In the cash branch, claims to the extent of Rs. 77,738 were allowed and Rs. 5,437 disallowed. Allowances of an annual value of Rs. 345 were purchased. In non-guaranteed Giras, Rs. 33 were continued and Rs. 2 disallowed and one claim of the annual value of Rs. 33 was purchased. In Vatan, the amount claimed was Rs. 5,316 of which only Rs. 4,256 were allowed. 12 loans amounting to about one lakh were advanced during the year. One important principle laid down was that if a grant be paid out of any kind of cesses, it should be discontinued on the abolition of those cesses at the time of succession.

Survey and Settlement.

39. Most of the revision operations were completed and three survey parties were disbanded. Revision reports of the Talukas of Dehgam, Kheralu, Visnagar, Mehsana and Attarsumba (Peta) were sanctioned. The survey parties were spread over various parts of the State and entrusted with measuring and classifying fields and conducting the city survey.

Giras.

40. The alienation enquiry into the Wanta and Giras lands was under progress. The memorial of the guaranteed Girassias against the levy of local cess by His Highness' Government was rejected by the Government of India. The result of the appeals to the

Resident against the decisions of the Giras Adhikari was very satisfactory: 11 out of the 12 decisions were upheld. Land to the extent of 715 Bighas was either purchased, commuted for Kothali Santh or divested of guarantee and cash Haks to the extent of about Rs. 48 were either purchased or struck off. Besides, Rs. 5,000 were paid to the Girassias of Bhinar as compensation for their alleged toddy rights.

Self-governing bodies

41. The Local Boards, Vishistha Panchayats (which combine the functions of village boards with some of those of the Municipalities) and the Municipalities, although self-governing, are responsible to the Joint Sar Suba, who as Head of the Department supervises their working. Non-official Vice-Presidents are now being elected in a number of select Taluka Boards and legislative provision has been made in the Act for the privilege of elective non-official Presidents for District and Taluka Panchavats as well as Vishistha Panchayats The number of District Local Boards continued unchanged, while the Village Boards increased from 2,300 to 2,310 owing to the formation of new Boards in some Inami and Ankadia Villages and the Taluka Boards decreased by one, owing to the amalgamation of a Peta Mahal with a Taluka. The income of the Local Boards increased by about 62 thousand rupees as compared with the preceding year, while the expenditure fell off by about 72 thousand. This decrease was due partly to the execution of a smaller number of civil works. There was no variation in the number of Vishistha Panchayats. Their income also rose by about Rs. 12,000 and the expenditure fell off by about Rs. 2,000 Here again the decrease was due to an unfortunate slackness in execution of works of public utility. The number of Municipalities remained unchanged. Their income amounting to Rs. 7,95,914 shows a rise by about a lakh and a half, the Baroda City Municipality alone contributing over a lakh to the increase owing to the enhanced grants from Government towards its

upkeep. Their expenditure amounted to Rs. 6,17,845 as against Rs. 8,15,410. This decrease is only apparent as the accounts between the Baroda City Municipality on the one hand and the Public Works Department and the City Improvement Trust on the other were still to be made up. Government have decided to take up the main roads in the District Municipal towns so as to give relief to the Municipal finances.

42. The Department of Agriculture had four agricultural stations under its control, where best methods of tillage and crop treatment were investigated and demonstrated to the visiting cultivators. The main investigations consisted of varietal, manurial, spacing, rotation and double cropping experiments. Out of four varieties of wheat—Katha, pissi, popatia and tamra—the tamra variety and out of big Japan, big erect and Spanish peanut, the big variety of groundnuts promised better results. Experiments in manures indicated the possibility of utilising factory and other refuse in place of farm yard manure which could be released for more important crops ; artificial manures did not promise much in our dry crops. Although tobacco without green manuring gave a better yield of leaf, the result must be accepted with caution as the *humus* provided in green manure is of special value in tobacco crop. In sugarcane, the combination of farm yard manure, castor cake and ammonium sulphate gave better results than farm yard manure alone or poudrette alone. In spacing, sowing at shorter distances, *i.e.*, overcrowding gave better results as it seemed to check the tendency of crops throwing out profuse foliage at the cost of fruit and seed. Indigo was introduced on the farm with a view to revive its culture. 'Charotar' tobacco was successfully tried on the Jagudan Farm. Castor cake was tried to prevent the attacks of white ants with encouraging results. A wooden 'Kathwa' sunk into the Jagudan Farm well at a trifling cost has shown the possibility of increasing the supply of water by this cheap device. The Dabhoi Farm was closed

Agriculture

owing to its unfavourable situation. During its existence it proved instrumental in extending the area under sugarcane in the villages commanded by the Vadhawana Tank. Dwarka farm was found similarly unsuitable to do any good work and was proposed to be closed. At the Songhad Farm, which is meant for giving practical instruction in agriculture to the children of the Dhanka School, 36 kinds of different crops were grown with the help of the students. The Agricultural Inspectors lectured to the people of 193 villages on agricultural improvements, agricultural associations and co-operative societies. Village to village demonstrations were undertaken with the view of bringing home to the cultivators the advantages of improved implements, etc Some of the agricultural associations maintained small seed and implement depots and held local shows and demonstrations. The agricultural school was transferred to Baroda from Jagudan and to attract the children of the cultivators, 17 scholarships of Rs. 8 each have been kept open. The Kodinar Co-operative Union successfully introduced the Poona system of "Gul" making Attempts were successfully made to manufacture at the Kalabhavan some of the improved agricultural implements such as ploughs and ploughshares. A breeding bull was supplied free of charge to the Local Boards at Amreli. Twenty wells were successfully bored during the year. The Entomologist continued his field operations for preventing the attacks of various insects

Veterinary.

43. Government has sanctioned the opening of 3 Veterinary Dispensaries every year, in places where Local Boards offer to defray a third of the expenditure. There were 6 dispensaries during the year in the State which treated 5,456 animals.

Industries.

44. Almost all the old industries worked continuously and at a profit. The Cotton-seed Oil Mill changed hands and started work. The Rosy Tile Works at Ajrai expanded their factory. Among

new industries may be mentioned the one at Petlad for manufacturing writing slates and the Vaso Slate Pen Factory which has begun turning out writing pencils similar to slate pens. A Bombay gentleman has been given concessions for working limestone deposits at Dwarka ; and the ochre and China clay at Kot-Rampur have been leased out. Infant industries were financed to the extent of Rs. 1,05,000. The Hand Loom demonstrations resulted in introducing a number of fly-shuttle looms, improved dobbies and hand-warping machines. Scholarships were given to a potter and a shoemaker to learn tile-making at Mangalore and shoe-making at Cawnpore. In fisheries although the experiments at the Government station were very successful, people were slow to take to the new methods. The Kotda creek was improved to attract small fishing vessels. In the investigation of the Gulf of Cutch, pearl beds were not discovered but the window-pane oysters which were distributed in several places have promised to thrive. A soap expert was engaged for a short time. He organised a Soap Department at the Hind Candle Works, Billimora. Purchase of such Government Stores as are locally available has been made compulsory. The Director of Commerce conducted a few special enquiries into the existing conditions of guilds and crafts, into the social and economic condition of two regiments of the Baroda Army and into the question of old age pensions. The reports of these enquiries were under preparation.

Exhibition.

45. An Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition was held in January 1917. There were five sections—Agriculture, Forests, Horticulture, Education and Industries—which in all put up nearly 30,000 exhibits. Practical demonstrations and lectures were its principal features.

Agricultural Banks.

46. There were four Agricultural Banks, of which those at Bhadran and Vyara continued to be well managed. The one at Bhadran

could not be freely availed of owing to over-strictness in advancing loans. The Amreli Bank had much of its lost confidence restored, while that of Songhad was in the process of reorganisation.

Boiler Inspection.

47. There were 175 factories using 204 steam boilers. The income from fees has increased. There were no prosecutions, nor accidents.

Printing and Stationery

48. The Printing continued with the same contractor as in the previous years. Several new improvements were introduced and the quality of work turned out was much better than before. The contract for supply of stationery ceased but owing to market fluctuations due to the War, all offices were permitted to make their own arrangements within their budgetted annual grants.

Co operative societies, etc

49. Efforts were made rather to consolidate and improve the existing societies than to expand the movement with the result that only 27 new societies were organised and as many as 25 were sent into liquidation. Thus the year began with 323 societies and closed with 325, and yet the membership rose and the working capital increased. There was a proportionate increase in the deposits and the net profits earned were higher. Overdue amounts could not however be entirely recovered owing to the poor condition of Amreli. A new Central Bank was organised at Mehsana for the Kadi District. The Central Bank at Baroda and the Banking Union at Kodinar did good work, the former having advanced over a lakh and a half to the societies and the latter having re-organised several feeble societies. Although the Union at Naosari showed rather a slow progress, it was able to get 38 societies affiliated to it. Naosari presents peculiar difficulties in co-operative work : the Rasti people get abundant money for their needs and the Rani people are too illiterate to organise co-operative societies to meet their needs. Amreli however did

fairly good work, notably the Union at Kodinar by putting most of the societies on good basis. In Kadi and Baroda, the movement progressed very well. Under non-credit, there was one addition at Bhurakoi (Petlad) in the shape of a society for irrigation. The year thus closed with 4 non-credit societies—2 for milk supply and 2 for irrigation. The non-agricultural group showed an increase of six societies. They were generally credit societies and did good work. It is a matter of great satisfaction that three societies were formed by 'Chamars' (tanners). The bringing out of an expert tanner from Madras to train these people was under contemplation. A co-operative training class was opened for a fortnight at Baroda and was attended by 45 men, consisting of members of the Co-operative Department, managers of Banks and Unions, honorary organisers and secretaries of societies.

Forests

50. There was a slight net reduction in the area of reserved forests in consequence of rectification on the records. Protected forests were constituted for the first time in the Kadi District along the banks of the Vatrak. This will to some extent satisfy the great desideratum to have small fuel and fodder reserves in the Kadi District. The Sadadwel and Vankal forests were already under the operation of the working plans on a system of coppice with a reservation of standards upto 23 trees per bigha. A scheme of improvemental fellings of diseased and similar trees for the Vajpur and Nanchhal forests was devised during the year. The forest sub-division of the P. W. D. specially maintained at Vyara did satisfactory work, the road projects being nearly completed and distinct progress having been made in regard to buildings. In the Gir range too, six forest buildings were constructed. The forest offences were on the decline apparently due to the deterrent effect of the prosecutions of the previous year. Fire conservancy was successfully carried out by means of special precautions, as evidenced by the fall in the number of fires from 33 to 25 and in the area burnt from

68,293 bighas to 5,666. The grazing rights over forest and revenue waste lands are now made available to the public by means of a single pass issued by the Forest Department, to avert hardship and inconvenience to the people going to the forest pastures at the hands of influential people who purchased the rights of pasturage over revenue areas. Under sylviculture, the seeding of teak was reported to be good. 'Anjan' seeds had sprouted and grown into seedlings but Sandalwood unfortunately did not germinate. Grafts of Alphonso varieties of the mango were planted in various places. Lac culture was very successful and the high market prices resulted in substantial revenue. The gross receipts from forest revenue (Rs. 2·47 lakhs) were substantially better than the previous year (Rs. 1·92 lakhs), there being a rise under all the principal heads.

Public Works

51. The expenditure of the ordinary Branch of the Public Works amounted to Rs. 33·87 lakhs, as against 33·27 Among important works completed may be mentioned the Science School Laboratory in the College Compound, the Vahivatdar's Cutchery and quarters at Waghodia, the Munsiff Court at Karjan, the Rest Houses at Visnagar and Kathore, the Police Lines at Sidhpur and Gandevi. More important than these were the large number of school buildings constructed during the year; Baroda District has a record of 10 school buildings, Naosari 5 and Kadi 4. Besides these a large number of school buildings were in progress. Owing to War conditions a second Diesel engine could not be procured, yet the Electric Department did its best to meet the increasing demand of the public for electric service. The State Gardens were well kept up, as also the gardens attached to the various palaces. No new large work of irrigation was undertaken but the existing works were kept in order. Control over city water works was transferred to the Municipality. The work of supplying water to a village called Rawal from the Sayaji Sarowar, the water works at

Sojitra and Kathore were completed during the year. Deep boring was successfully done at Mehsana and Naosari and an adequate supply of water has been tapped for both the towns.

Railways

52. During the year 15·77 miles of Railway were opened for traffic, bringing the total open mileage to 501·786. There were besides about 132 miles of Railway under construction. The total expenditure of the Department amounted to nearly thirteen lakhs of Rupees.

City Improvement Trust

53. This body had mainly to do with the opening of blind lanes, widening of roads and laying of drainage pipes during the year. There were more ambitious schemes on the programme awaiting their turn. One commendable feature of the year's work was the building of one block of residential quarters, which can serve as a model for the middle class people. The total expenditure of the Improvement Trust amounted to Rs. 2·30 lakhs.

Public Instruction Total number of Institutions.

54. The total number of educational Institutions of all kinds stood at 3,199 as against 2,719. The increase however is only apparent, as under the new classification, schools teaching upto V or VI Vernacular standard are counted as 2 institutions—the first four standards being denominated Lower Primary and the 5th and 6th standards as Higher Primary. For proper comparison their number may be taken at 2,604 showing a decrease of 115, due mainly to the want of the prescribed number of pupils attending them; as a natural result of this, the number of pupils also declined from 2,49,026 to 2,42,066.

English Education.

55. The number of English Institutions and the pupils attending them showed a slight increase. The College at Baroda, which teaches upto the M.A., maintained its prestige with about 50 per cent. of

"passes" at the University Examinations. There were three Government hostel buildings attached to it and one rented, all accommodating 160 students. The net cost of educating a pupil at the College came to Rs. 176 per head. Attached to the College is the Seminar for the comparative study of religions, as a result of its activities, the first volume of the Indian Philosophical Review was published in July 1917. There were 7 Government and 5 aided High Schools, 24 Government and 6 aided A. V. Schools and 3 Matriculation classes, besides several other English classes. Through the munificence of a private gentleman, the grant-in-aid matriculation class at Bhadran was converted into a full fledged High School. Nearly all the Government High Schools have hostels attached to them; and the students of 8 A. V. Schools were given residential facilities on the grant-in-aid principle. The Prince's School, which is a small special institution for the grand-children of His Highness and certain selected companions, did highly useful work. Sloyd teaching and the teaching of Swedish drill also formed a part of its curriculum. The aggregate annual value of State scholarships for the College and Secondary Schools in the State was Rs 6,984. In addition, there were Khangi scholarships founded by His Highness to the extent of over Rs 6,000. Again the interest of the Maratha Education Fund amounting to Rs. 1·5 lakhs was utilised in awarding scholarships to Maratha students. With a view to improve the teaching staff of the Secondary Schools, a training college was started for them during the year. Similarly to prepare teachers for Sloyd work, another class was opened under an expert borrowed from Mysore

Vernacular Education

56. The primary schools (not distinguishing higher from the lower primary) numbered 2,464 and these alone absorbed Rs. 10·89 lakhs giving an average of Rs 442 per school. There were 1,40,405 boys and 84,605 girls attending them. There were besides 2 training colleges for men (with residential

accommodation for 280), 1 for women (with residential accommodation for 52), 1 Kalabhavan at Baroda and 72 other institutions. Compulsory fines from recalcitrant parents were collected to the extent of Rs. 77,376 and Rs. 8,288 were remitted. The practice of giving scholarships to all the teachers under training was stopped and the number of scholarships was limited and made available by competition to the most deserving. At the same time latitude was kept to others to join the college if they so chose but only up to a fixed number. A Vernacular School Final class was opened with a view to turning out suitable candidates for the lower subordinate service.

Female Education

57. In regard to female education, there was again a decrease of one school, if we do not count the lower and higher primary schools as separate; and the number of girls fell from 90,235 to 85,656. Besides ordinary subjects of study, certain branches of domestic science, such as, needlework, embroidery, drawing, music and cookery are offered to girls in Baroda and some of the principal towns. Two of the Zenana classes had to be closed owing to a fall in attendance. The remaining one class was held in the afternoons, when the women are free from their domestic duties. In the Training College for women all possible inducements of pay and prospects are held out to draw intelligent women of good social position, as there is a pressing demand for female teachers, but unfortunately not with proportionate success. A Branch of this Female Training College was maintained at Amreli.

Education of backward classes.

58. There was a net increase of one school under the head of separate Antyaja schools. The total number of Antyaja children in all schools was equal to 10 % of their population There were 5 Antyaja girls (against 3 last year) in the first English standard at the Baroda Antyaja school; 11 Antyaja boys attended the Baroda High School and 3 the Kalabhavan.

School requisites and books are given by Government free to these children and liberal scholarships are made available to them. The Antyaja schools are under the control of a special Antyaja Inspector. The Garoda School (with 21 on the roll as against 18) taught Sanskrit to the priestly class of the Antyajas and initiated them in the proper performance of religious rites and ceremonies. Four Boarding Schools are maintained for the education of the forest tribes; every one of them had the full complement of students. The course of studies includes both practical and theoretical training in agriculture and carpentry Some of these Kaliparaj boys have joined English schools. The net average annual cost of education per Kaliparaj student was Rs. 44 For the benefit of the Mahomedans there were 78 Urdu schools for boys and 33 for girls. 19,422 Mahomedan children were receiving primary education equal to 12·1 per cent. of the total Mahomedan population.

Technical Education

59. A central technical institution called the Kala-Bhavan is maintained at Baroda for popularising and promoting technical education among the masses. Attached to it are the Workshops which afford practical training in the use of engines, lathes, tools and machines, and three classes of applied art for repoussé work, enamelling and wood carving. The larger portion of the students (337 out of 433) were from outside attracted no doubt by the practical nature of the tuition, moderate scale of fees and instruction through the vernacular. In addition to the competitive scholarships worth Rs. 100 per month kept open by Government, the four District Boards gave two scholarships of Rs. 7 each to artisan students from their own districts. Further, there were the Pilaji Rao Gaekwar scholarships of Rs. 10 per month recently endowed by His Highness for artisan students, one for each district. The annual average cost of the Kala-Bhavan was Rs. 158 per pupil. Besides the Kala-Bhavan at Baroda, there were

two Government Industrial Schools at Amreli and Dabhoi and one aided school at Naosari. The Amreli school imparted instruction in dyeing and weaving and carpentry and the Dabhoi one, which is monotechnic, in weaving only. The Principal of the Kala-Bhavan at Baroda controls also the Reformatory for juvenile offenders. The total expenditure on account of technical education including the Reformatory was Rs. 74,116.

Special Institutions

60. Among other special institutions may be mentioned the Orphanage at Amreli which besides bringing up the orphans (62 during the year) affords residential facilities to juvenile offenders (6 during the year) of the Amreli District and teaches them weaving, carpentry, tailoring and similar useful arts. There were 5 music schools, one each at Baroda, Pattan, Naosari, Mehsana and Amreli and 12 Sanskrit Pathshalas (of which 4 were Government, 2 aided and 6 unaided). To further foster the learning of Sanskrit, a sum of Rs. 5,000 is set apart annually for money prizes to successful candidates, even non-Brahmins, at the 'Shravana Mas' Examination. The two Deaf-Mute institutions at Baroda and Mehsana under specially trained teachers (with an attendance of 26 and 23 respectively) did useful work. There was no fluctuation in the number of Kindergarten classes, which were however well equipped with appliances calculated to rouse and develop the powers of observation in children There is a school attached to the Baroda Central Jail for the benefit of youthful convicts. But owing to the short duration of sentences, no lasting effect is possible from this school without any continuation classes outside. Physical culture which is now recognised to be an important branch of education had a special Inspector to move about the Raj and inspect the work in different schools The idea of placing physical culture on a systematic basis and of importing an instructor from abroad is under consideration of Government. Last but not least is the moral and religious

education. Gould's books on moral subjects and Prof. Dhruv's 'Nitishikshana' are read respectively in the Secondary and Primary schools.

The Museum

61. The Museum continued to exercise its silent educative influence, having on an average about 801 visitors daily. A fairly large collection of Spanish and Mogul coins and a fine collection of plaster work, textiles and wood-work were acquired during the year. A notable feature worth mention is the opening of a sale room of typical samples of Baroda arts and crafts.

Libraries.

62. Libraries are a necessary adjunct to the free and compulsory education of the masses. There was an increase of 26 village libraries and a fall of 10 reading rooms, while in the Prant and Town libraries there was no fluctuation. These libraries were more extensively used as can be seen from the increased number of circulation of books. The Town library scheme for giving adequate buildings to each and every town and for supplying a decent stock of standard books to each was practically completed. Most of the libraries are now housed in buildings of their own and a few that were still in rented buildings had their own houses under construction. The travelling libraries continued their sphere of work for a limited period of six months only. The Visual Instruction Branch continued its existence for the instruction of the masses by means of cinema and lantern shows and stereographic pictures. 153 cinema shows were availed of by 93,790 people as against 64,048. The Central Library at Baroda was visited by Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon and as a memento of this visit, His Highness presented Lady Willingdon with a copy of Monier Williams' translation of Shakuntala, Dhurandhar's Picture Shakuntala and an artistically prepared travelling library box.

Press Report.

63. This Branch exercises censorship over the Baroda press and keeps the Government informed of the local and foreign press in respect

of the administration of the State. The output of the Baroda press was 7 weeklies, 24 periodicals and 251 books and pamphlets. The tone of the Baroda press has been on the whole sane and loyal to both the Baroda and the British Governments. There were 28 presses in the whole State as against 26 in the preceding year. The slow advance in the printing press industry in the State is to some extent due to the absence of any copyright protection.

Medical Relief.

64. There was no change in the number of permanent medical institutions which remained at 59 with a ratio of 1 institution to 36,954 of the population. The attendance both of indoor and outdoor patients was larger than in the previous year with a daily average of 304·67 and 4,910·4 respectively. The number of operations, however, shows a slight decrease but they were performed with commendable success. Abdominal operations (other than those for diseases peculiar to women) numbered 159 with 21 deaths, while obstetric operations were 148, of which 10 were for Cæsarean section, with 8 deaths of which 1 death related to Cæsarean section. The most common diseases consisted of malarial fever and those pertaining to the eyes, skin, ear and respiratory system. The Countess of Dufferin Hospital shows, as in the past, a successful record of useful work. Owing to insufficiency of beds, patients had constantly to be refused admission; but this complaint will cease, when the new Hospital Buildings which were formally opened by H. E. Lord Willingdon on 23rd February 1917 are ready for use with all fittings. The Lunatic Asylum afforded shelter to 89 of these unfortunate beings as against 47, while the Leper Asylum entertained 169 inmates against 183. For want of proper protection to the Asylum, the Leper Act could not be strictly enforced. The question of walling the asylum was under consideration. The Chemical Analyser investigated 108 medico-legal cases. In cases of human poisoning, opium was the most common poison used. The rate of mortality in the jail population was 5·4 (as against 10·9) which is

less than the average death-rate in the Bombay Presidency jails. The midwives maintained in Baroda City and at the various hospitals and dispensaries in the mofussil attended to 462 labour cases as against 338. This increase was phenomenal in the mofussil with 347 as against 115 and not so in the Baroda City, which shows a fall of 108 as compared to the last year's figure. Ambulance, Nursing and Home Hygiene received due attention and a series of lectures on these subjects was delivered by the different medical officers. Plague, cholera and small-pox were the principal epidemics. The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 3·15 lakhs with a slight variation on the side of increase as compared with last year.

Vital statistics.

65. The Sanitary Department continued its supervision over vaccination, registration of births and deaths and over sanitation. Municipalities and Vishistha Panchayats were also inspected by the Sanitary Commissioner and their attention drawn towards various measures of improved sanitation. The number of births was 62,778, the rate per mille being 30·9 as against 31·4; while 54,205 persons died giving a rate of 26·7 per mille as against 23·4. For every 100 female births 112·9 male births were registered and for every 100 female deaths there were 113·6 male deaths. This higher rate of male mortality is apparently due to the harder struggle for existence. The number of persons vaccinated during the year was smaller than the previous year due to the fact that outside the City, vaccination is not compulsory but depends entirely on persuasion.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

A.—The State of Baroda.

Territorial Divisions.

1. The State of Baroda comprises an area of 8,182 square miles. It is divided into four distinct blocks cut off from each other by intervening British territory. The southern district of Navsari lies near the mouth of the river Tapti and is interlaced with British territory. To the north of the Narbada river is the central district of Baroda containing the capital. Further up and to the north of Ahmedabad lies the district of Kadi with its historical towns of Pattan and Sidhpur and numerous archæological remains. Far to the west in Kathiawar lie tracts of land isolated and separated from each other, which comprise the district of Amreli.

Area and population

2. The area and the population of the four districts show considerable variation and are shown in the table below. The figures given are those of the Census of 1911.

Districts	Area in square miles	Population.	Number of towns.	Number of villages.
Baroda ..	1,898	6,86,900	16	921
Kadi ..	3,023	8,32,162	14	1,076
Navsari ..	1,914	3,35,467	6	762
Amreli ..	1,347	1,78,269	6	296
Total ..	8,182	20,32,798	42	3,055

3. Out of a total population of two millions and over, more than four-fifths, or 16,96,146, were Hindus. The Mahomedans numbered 1,60,137 or about one-thirteenth. Tribes of animistic faiths numbered 1,15,411. The Jains numbered 43,462, the Parsis numbered 7,955, and the Christians 7,293.

Religious denominations

4. During the year under report there were ten Municipalities and thirty-one Vishishtha Punchayats, which combine the functions of Village Boards with some of those of Municipalities. The number of Village Boards was 2,310 as against 2,300 for the last year.

Municipalities, Vishishtha Punchayats and Village Boards

5. Occupationally, the population was classed in the Census of 1911 as under :—

Occupations of the people

1.	Exploitation of the surface of the earth	65·6	per cent.
2.	Industry	12·3	,,
3.	Transport	8	,,
4.	Trade	6·4	,,
5	Public Force	1 3	,,
6	Public Administration	1 9	,,
7	Professions and liberal arts	3 7	,,
8	Persons living on their income	·4	,,
9	Domestic service	·2	,,
10.	Insufficiently described occupations	7·0	,,
11	Unproductive	4	,,

B.—The Central Administration.

(a) The Minister.

6. Mr. Manubhai N. Mehta, M.A., LL.B., continued to officiate as Minister until 9th December 1916, when he was confirmed. The work of administration was carried on by him with the assistance of two Naib Dewans—one for Judicial and another for Revenue and allied branches. Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad, Bar.-at-law, and Mr. V. Y. Vanikar, M.A., held these positions respectively during the year. The Legal Remembrancer, Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaokar,

The Minister and the Naib Dewans

B.A., LL.B., attended to the Education Portfolio for some time, after which it was transferred to the Naib Dewan, (Judicial).

Mr. V. D. Satghare, B.A., LL.B., and Mr. S.K. Nayampalli, B.A., LL.B., worked respectively as Secretary, Foreign Office, and Superintendent, Dewan's Office.

(*b*) THE COUNCIL.

Secretary to the Council.

7. As mentioned in the last Report, the Secretary to the Council worked throughout the year directly under the control and supervision of the Dewan with a separate establishment of his own. Mr. Satya Vrat Mukerjea, B.A. Oxon.), worked as Secretary to the Council in addition to his special duties in the Dewan Office for the most part of the year except when he went on leave and on deputation to Madras and Bangalore to study the Secretariat systems working there and to report on them; during these intervals the charge of the Council Secretary came to the Superintendent of the Dewan's Office, Mr. S. K. Nayampalli.

Composition.

8. At the end of the year the Constitution of the Council was made up of the Dewan as President, the Judicial Naib Dewan as First Councillor and the Revenue Naib Dewan as the Second Councillor. Mr. G. B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., worked as the Third Councillor till May 1917, when he was transferred to the Judicial Department. Maharaj-Kumar Jaisinhrao and Shrimant Dada Saheb Gaekwar were on the Council as additional members for some time during the year under report.

Work

9. The Council had to deal with a greater volume of work than heretofore. It held 24 meetings including special ones during the year as against 35 in the previous year. The total number of subjects considered was 1,187 against 960 of the last year. Of these, 1,084 matters were disposed of leaving a balance

of 103 against 44 of the previous year. Of the matters disposed of, 970 cases were dealt with by the Council within its own powers and 114 were submitted to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb with its opinion. It may also be mentioned that 33 matters were referred to the Council by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb against 82 in the preceding year.

(c) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Constitution.

10. This Council called the "Dhara Sabha" was composed of 26 members, including the Dewan, who is the President. The details of the membership are as follows:—

The President	1
Ex-officio members	4
Official nominated members	6
Non-official nominated	5
Elected	10
	26

Work

11. During the year, the Legislative Council met only once on the 19th July 1917, when the Companies' Bill, the Arbitration Bill and bills to amend the Transfer of Property Act, the Disposition of Hindu Property Act and the Local Criminal Procedure Code were introduced by the Legal Remembrancer for discussion. The Companies' Bill, being an important piece of legislation, was referred to a Select Committee and the Arbitration Bill being connected with it was postponed for future consideration, pending the result of the former. Other bills received unanimous approval of the Council. At the same sitting permission was granted to non-official members to introduce bills for amendments in the Land Revenue Code, Factory Act, and Transfer of Property Act. It is gratifying to note that the non-official members continued to take a lively interest in the proceedings of the Council as may be seen from the large number of interpellations and motions for permission to introduce bills before the Council.

(*d*) THE HUZUR NYAYA SABHA.

The Huzur Nyaya Sabha and its work.

12. The Varisht Court is the highest tribunal in the State but the power of revising the decisions of that Court has been reserved to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, who is advised in the exercise of this power by a committee composed of not less than three members; the Legal Remembrancer, a Judge of the Varisht Court not connected with the case under appeal, and the Huzur Kamdar are usually members of this committee. They hold their sessions four times in the year and generally continue to work till the cases ready for hearing are disposed of. They give a regular hearing to the parties concerned and tender their advice to His Highness who passes the final decision. The following statement shows the work done by the Huzur Nyaya Sabha during the years 1915-16 and 1916-17 :—

Nature of cases.	Arrears of the last year		Filed in the current year.		Disposed of during the year.		Pending at the end of the year.	
	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Appeals —								
(*a*) Civil	7	17	13	15	3	6	17	26
(*b*) Criminal	8	10	9	10	7	10	10	10
Extraordinary applications —								
(*a*) Civil .	8	18	12	19	2	16	18	21
(*b*) Criminal	4	28	29	18	5	37	28	9
	27	73	63	62	17	69	73	66

Out of the 26 Civil appeals that remained pending at the end of the year, 17 were pending hearing and 9 were not ready for hearing owing to non-service of summons.

Out of the 10 Criminal appeals that remained pending at the end of the year, 5 were ready for hearing, 4 were pending

opinion and 1 was not ready for hearing owing to non-service of summons on respondent.

(e) THE KHATA NIHAYA SADAR ADALAT.

Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat Departmental appeals.

13. In certain specified cases, appeals are allowed against the decisions of the Heads of Departments in administrative matters. These appeals are heard by a bench which is known as the Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat and composed of (1) The Huzur Kamdar, (2) an Officer appointed by the Huzur and (3) a member of the Royal Family. Definite rules have been framed for the due disposal of these appeals.

There were 98 appeals in arrears at the beginning of the year and 252 new ones were filed during the year. Out of the total number of 350 appeals, 202 were disposed of by the bench and the Huzur Kamdar under the rules and 148 were pending at the end of the year.

The practice of sending these appeals to the Dewan for final disposal which was stopped about the close of 1915-16, has since been revived and 2 appeals were accordingly sent to the Dewan who disposed them of finally. Two cases were also submitted to and disposed of by the Huzur, in both of which the opinion of the bench was accepted.

The Bench dealing with the appeals from the Subhas was, as mentioned in the last Report, discontinued and consequently no new appeals were filed. There were, however, 63 appeals pending of which 59 were disposed of by the Bench and 4 were pending decision at the close of the year.

(f) THE HUZUR KAMDAR.

Duties of the Huzur Kamdar.

14. Besides attending to the secretarial work of His Highness the Maharaja and obtaining his orders regarding official matters sent up to him, the Huzur Kamdar has to take part in certain special appellate functions: he is a member of

the Huzur Nyaya Sabha and the Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat, as mentioned above.

Huzur Kamdar.

15. For the first few months of the year, Mr. Manubhai Nandshankar Mehta, M.A., LL.B., continued to attend to the duties of the Huzur Kamdar. He was succeeded by Maharaj-Kumar Jaisinh Rao Gaekwar who held office for three months, after which Mr. Manirai T. Joshipura, B.A., LL.B., worked for about a month and was in turn succeeded by Mr. W. B. Padgaokar, B.A., LL.B., who continued in office when the year closed.

Assistant Huzur Kamdar.

16. The post of the Assistant to the Huzur Kamdar was vacant for the greater part of the year, Mr. V. G. Pendse, B.A., having held it only for the last three months and a half.

C.—The Palace.

Stay at Kashmere.

17. At the beginning of the year Their Highnesses the Maharaja and Maharani were in Kashmere, where they stayed at Gulmarg and at Shrinagar. On the 5th of October 1916 H. H. The Maharaja left Kashmere and on the return journey he halted a few days at Kapurthala and Simla and arrived at Baroda on the 22nd October.

At Kashmere, Sir John and Lady Woodroffe, Mr. Amiruddin Tayabji, Maharaj Shri Zalim Sinhji of Jodhpur, Dewan Bahadur Dewan Amarnath and Raja Harisinh of Kashmere and several others exchanged visits with Their Highnesses.

Visit to Delhi.

18. Within a week of his return from Kashmere, His Highness accompanied by Maharaj-Kumar Jaisinh Rao, the Minister and several other officers left for Delhi to attend the Chiefs' Conference. His Highness addressed the Conference on behalf of all the Chiefs at Delhi. He returned on the 5th November 1916 to Baroda.

19. Their Highnesses spent the summer in Ootacamund having stayed there from 1st May to 5th July except for a short interval of about four days, when they were at Bangalore. His Highness the Maharaja called on His Excellency Lord Pentland, the Governor of Madras, on 3rd May and Her Highness on Lady Pentland on 11th May 1917. These visits were returned by Their Excellencies on the 19th May. Visits were also exchanged with the members of the Council—the Hon'ble Sir A. G. Cardew, the Hon'ble Mr. Herbert Gillman and the Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur P. Rajagopala Achariyar—His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore and the Rajas of Cochin and Kollengode.

Summer at Ootacamund.

20. Their Highnesses left Ootacamund on 6th July and after stopping at Mysore and Bangalore *en route* came to Poona. From the 10th to 13th July they stayed at Ganeshkhind as the guests of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay. At Poona Their Highnesses visited the Deccan War Hospital and the Engineering Works at Dapur. Leaving Poona on the 13th July, His Highness halted at Navsari and Her Highness proceeded straight to Baroda.

Halt at Poona.

21. At Navsari, His Highness interviewed the local officers and other leading gentlemen and then proceeded to Billimora to inspect the construction of the Billimora-Kala-Amba Railway Line. At Unai, His Highness was presented with Pansupari by the Bansda Durbar. He then left for Baroda arriving here on the 16th July.

Halt at Navsari

22. Besides the visits described above, His Highness visited Bombay; and he went to Songhad early in April for tiger shooting.

Visits to Bombay and Songhad.

23. Within his own dominions he visited Sinor and Bhadran to acquaint himself with the condition of his subjects and to come into

Touring within the Raj.

closer touch with them. At all these places, he interviewed the local officials and other leading gentlemen. At Bhadran, the Panchayat presented him with an address to which he gave a suitable reply and he performed the opening ceremony of the Panchayat Hall and Garden, the Girls' School and the High School at Bhadran.

Formal courtesies on the occasions of social ceremonials

24. The formal courtesies of presentation of *Poshaks*, etc., were extended to the Raj Saheb of Wankaner on the occasion of his daughter's marriage, to the Raja of Lunawada on that of his grand-daughter, to the Chief of Kagal (Junior) on that of his son and to the Sar Desai of Sawantwadi on that of his sister. Deputations were sent with the formal *Poshaks* of condolence to His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar on the occasion of his mother's death and to Phaltan on the death of the Chief.

Domestic events.

25. The year was marked by the birth of a second son to Maharaj-Kumar Shivaji Rao on the 29th August 1916.

On the 21st June 1917 occurred the sad death of Shrimant Himmat Bahadur Anandrao Gaekwad, C.I.E., after a short illness.

D.—Relations with the British Government.

Foreign relations.

26. The relations of His Highness' Government with the British Government and the neighbouring States were conducted by the Minister through his Foreign Office; and these relations continued, as before, to be cordial and satisfactory.

Co-operation in Police and Criminal matters.

27. Arrangements relating to the mutual extradition of criminals and co-operation in Police matters also continued to work satisfactorily as hitherto.

28. The British Postal authorities continued to receive the requisite facilities to enable them to provide additional Post Offices and letter boxes in different parts of the State. The total number of Post Offices and letter boxes was 991 (250 + 741) at the close of the official year, as against 992 (251 + 741) of the previous year.

Postal arrangements

29. A reciprocal arrangement was arrived at with the Government of India under which fees payable under the Court Fees Act, 1870 (VII of 1870), on copies of decrees of Civil Courts of the Baroda State forwarded for execution to any Courts in British India or in the administered areas outside British India, were remitted.

Various reciprocal arrangements.

The reciprocal arrangement existing for direct service of non-compulsory Civil and Criminal processes between the courts of the Baroda State and those of the Rewa Kantha Agency was extended to the courts of the Rajpipla State.

A reciprocal arrangement for extradition of criminals for the offences enumerated in Schedule I to the Extradition Act XV of 1903 was effected with the Alwar, Bharatpur and Dholpur States in the Rajputana Agency.

The arrangement for mutual waiver of maintenance and conveyance charges of criminals in extradition cases, which existed between the Baroda State and the British districts in the Presidency of Bombay, was extended to all the provinces in Britis India, during the year.

An arrangement was entered into with the States of Bikaner, Marwar, Tonk, Bundi, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Kishanger, Alwar, and Mewar and the Shahpura Chief, for the reciprocal waiver of charges for the maintenance and conveyance of prisoners and property in extradition cases.

Amendment of Govt. of India notification authorizing certain officers to certify documents for purposes of Sec. 79, Indian Evidence Act.

30. The Government of India amended their notification in the Foreign Department No. 1387 I. A, dated the 12th April 1904, which authorized certain officers in the Baroda State to certify documents for purposes of section 79 of the Indian Evidence Act by investing the following officers also with the like authority:—

(*a*) The Registrar of the Varisht Court.

(*b*) The Nazirs, Shirastedars and Head Clerks of the Courts of District Judges.

(*c*) All Nazirs and Shirastedars of the Courts of Subordinate Judges.

(*d*) All Nazirs and Shirastedars of the Courts of Magistrates of the 1st Class.

Facilities afforded to our officers by several Governments.

31. The thanks of His Highness' Government are due to—

(1) the Madras Government for their courtesy in allowing—

(*a*) Messrs. S. V. Mukerji and V. S. Dalal, Council Secretary, and Superintendent, Sar Suba's Office, to study the Secretariat system of work, the method of arranging the current records, and the method of work of the Revenue Board.

(*b*) Dr. Dhanjibhai H. Mehta, L.M.&S., Superintendent, Central Jail, Baroda, to inspect the Jail at Madras and the methods of work, &c., adopted therein.

(2) the Government of Bombay for their kindness in allowing the necessary facilities to—

(*a*) Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, Excise Commissioner, to study the working of the

Bombay Abkari system at Bombay, Uran, Surat, Ahmedabad, Godhra, Kaira and Dabhoda and also to inspect the Distillery at Dhulia.

(b) The two State officers, Messrs. Sevaklal Dalsukhbhai Parikh and Chaturbhai Raojibhai Patel, to study the system and procedure followed in the City of Bombay Improvement Trust and the Bombay Municipality, with regard to the valuation of houses and other real property.

(3) the Mysore Durbar for their courtesy in affording facilities to—

(a) Messrs. Mukerji and Dalal who were deputed to Bangalore to study the working of the Mysore Secretariat system and to Mysore to study the working and organization of the efficiency audit office.

(b) The Joint Sar Subha, the Director of Commerce and the Director of Agriculture, when they visited Mysore in October 1916 to attend the Dussera Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition.

(c) Dr. Dhanjibhai H. Mehta, L.M.&S., Superintendent, Central Jail, Baroda, who was deputed to inspect the Jail at Bangalore, and to study the methods of work, &c., therein adopted.

War contributions.

32. In addition to the contributions for War purposes mentioned in last year's report, His Highness' Government made the following further contributions during the year 1916-17 :—

(a) A sum of Rupees one lakh was placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Viceroy to be spent

in connection with the War. It was decided to treat the sum as a further contribution from His Highness to the Imperial Indian War Relief Fund.

(*b*) The services of 206 Sowars from the State Cavalry Regiments have been placed at the disposal of the British Military authorities during the period of the War for the purpose of training remounts at the Depot at Muttra.

(*c*) Colonel F. C. Nissen of the State Army was granted leave and his services were utilised by the Remount Department at Muttra.

(*d*) The Jaya Mahal Palace at Bombay with the Bungalow attached to it was placed at the disposal of the Military Medical authorities for being used as an Hospital for officers.

(*e*) 157 horses from the State Cavalry were given to the British Government on payment for War purposes.

(*f*) The State Steam Tug Jubilee continued at the disposal of the Military authorities.

(*g*) The monthly contribution of Rs. 12,000 was continued as before.

(*h*) Dr. C. A. L. Mayer continued to do duty in Mesopotamia till the end of June 1917, upto which date his salary of Rs 1,200 per mensem was paid to him from the State in addition to the remuneration drawn by him from the British Government. On his return to India, he has been allowed to do the duties of the Residency Surgeon at Baroda in addition to his duties as Chief Medical Officer of the State.

(*i*) The State took War Loan Bonds of Rupees thirty-two lakhs and also purchased bonds of the

further value of Rupees thirty-eight lakhs by conversion of old Government Promissory Notes.

Distinguished visitors.

33. His Highness Shri Rama Varma, Raja Saheb of Cochin, on his way to Delhi, halted at Baroda from 19th October to 21st October 1916. He was accompanied by his consort, son and two daughters. They stayed in the Nazarbag Palace. Due honour and courtesies were shown to him.

His Highness Lt.-Col. Sawai Maharaja Sir Jay Singhji Bahadur, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., Maharaja of Alwar, visited Baroda on 5th December 1916. He stayed as the guest of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar in the Laxmi Vilas Palace till the 7th. The visit was private. Due honour and courtesies were shown to him.

His Excellency Lord Willingdon, Governor of Bombay, accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Willingdon, arrived at Baroda on the 23rd February 1917 and left on the night of the 24th idem. The visit was private. They stayed at the Makarpura Palace. Taking advantage of his presence, His Excellency was requested to open "The State General Hospital" which he kindly did on the day of his arrival.

CHAPTER II.

PROTECTION.

A.—The Army.

Strength of the Regular Force.

1. The actual strength of the Regular Force at the close of the year 1916-17 as compared with its fixed strength was as follows :—

Description of Force.	Fixed Strength.			Actual Strength			Remarks.
	Effectives.	Non-effectives	Total	Effectives	Non-effectives.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Artillery.							
Light Field Battery	93	67	160	63	48	111	
Total	93	67	160	63	48	111	
Cavalry.							
1st Cavalry	455	24	479	431	16	447	
2nd Lancers	455	24	479	432	12	444	
3rd Cavalry	455	24	479	..	..		
The Guards	135	10	145	128	8	136	
Total	1,500	82	1,582	991	36	1,027	
Infantry							
1st Infantry	698	29	727	847	36	883	
2nd Infantry	698	49	747	401	32	433	
3rd Infantry	698	29	727	704	39	743	
4th Infantry	516	27	543			..	
Okha Battalion	461	14	475	420	14	434	
Total	3,071	148	3,219	2,372	121	2,493	
The Band	111	6	117	65	7	72	
The General and Staff Officers	6	2	8	4	.	4	
Grand Total	4,781	305	5,086	3,495	212	3,707	

2. The cost of maintaining the Regular Force during the year is shown in the following table :—

Cost of Maintenance

Artillery	Cavalry.	Infantry	Band	General and Staff Officers	Medical Establishment.	Veterinary Establishment	Total
40,349	5,02,661	4,75,918	31,930	31,853	14,713	5,893	11,03,317

3. It will be seen from the above statement that the Regular Force cost the Government of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar nearly eleven lakhs against Rs. 11,87,395 in the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to the following reasons :—

Reasons for decrease in expenditure.

(*a*) The men detailed on Remount Duty at Muttra get their pay and allowances from the Government of India.

(*b*) The 3rd Cavalry Regiment was amalgamated with the remaining two cavalry Regiments and the 2nd Infantry Detachment with the 1st Infantry Regiment as a temporary measure on account of many vacancies.

4. The average annual cost for each effective in the Artillery was Rs. 363, in the Cavalry Rs. 489, in the Infantry Rs. 191, and in the Band Rs. 426 or taking the whole Force together the average cost per effective was Rs. 367 or about Rs. 30 a month.

Average annual cost per effective.

5. The total fixed strength of the Irregular Force during the year was as follows :—

Strength of the Irregulars.

HORSE.

Shilledars.	Shibandi.	Paganihaya	Khalsa.	Total.
908	333	182	577	2,000

FOOT.

Shibandi.	Khalsa.	Total.
1,139	667	1,806

Cost of the Irregulars

6. The expenditure incurred on account of the Irregular Force together with other establishment charges came to Rs. 3,46,082 against Rs. 3,79,014 of the last year.

Reasons for decrease in cost

7. The decrease was mainly due—

(*a*) to the reduction of allowances under Succession Rules applicable to Sardars and Shilledars and

(*b*) to the transfer of some of the Shilledars to other Departments.

The average annual cost per head in the Irregular Force was Rs. 834.

Total Cost of the Army

8. Taking the Regular and Irregular Forces together, the total cost was as follows :—

Regular.	Irregular	Pension and Gratuity.	Total.
11,03,317	3,46,082	89,800	15,39,199

The sum of Rs. 3,75,000 paid on account of the annual Contingent Commutation money to the Government of India was debited to this Department as usual. The grand total of the expenditure during the year was Rs. 19,14,199 against Rs. 27,10,166 for the last year.

9. The effectives in the Regular Army (except the Okha Battalion) are classified by religion as under :—

Classification by caste, etc.

Force	Hindus	Mahomedans	Christians	Total	Average height	Average Chest Measurements.
Artillery	42	21		63	5′/6″	34″
Cavalry	778	213		991	5′/5 8″	33 4″
Infantry	627	324	1	1,952	5′/4 2″	33 3″
Band	8	43	14	65	5′ '4″	
Total	2,455	601	15	3,071	5′/5″	33 6″

10. The following table shows the number of crimes committed and the punishments awarded in the Regular Forces of the Army (exclusive of the Okha Battalion) .—

Crime and award of punishments

Forces	Number of offences	Punishments awarded by O Cs	Punishments awarded by Squadron or Wing Commanders	Punishments awarded by Troop, Company or Section Commanders.
Artillery	58	54		4
Cavalry	491	406	73	12
Infantry	353	337	10	6
Band	1	1		..
Total	903	798	83	22

11. Precautions necessary for the prevention of malaria amongst men and of relapsing fever amongst cavalry horses were taken as usual.

Precautions against diseases

12. 28 horses were castrated against 32 in the previous year.

Castration of horses.

13. The following were some of the important changes inaugurated in this Department :—

Notable changes

(1) Some of the powers of the Commanding Officers were increased, so as to decentralize the work in the Head Office.

(2) Owing to a large number of vacancies in the various squadrons, one squadron of the 1st Cavalry (old) has been reduced as a temporary measure from 1st November 1916 and the men spread over the other squadrons.

(3) The standard measurement of height for enlisting has been reduced by ½″ for both the Cavalry and the Infantry Regiments with a view to facilitate recruiting.

(4) The fixed graded salaries of staff and field officers and of the Chief Veterinary Surgeon have been replaced by minimum-maximum scale of salaries with periodical or time scale increments.

(5) The non-military work relating to the Sardars, Shilledars, &c (except the Mobadla (succession) Work) was re-transferred to the Military Department from the Alienation Branch of the Sar-Suba Office from 1st December 1916.

(6) The men of one of the Cavalry Regiments were spread over and temporarily amalgamated with the other two Cavalry Regiments from 1st April 1917 to fill up the large number of vacancies.

(7) Similarly, the 2nd Infantry Detachment at Baroda has been for the time amalgamated with the 1st Infantry.

(8) Under the orders of the Huzur, several Karkhanas (Faraskhana, Baggikhana, Pilkhana and the Dairy) were transferred to this Department from the Khangi from the 1st of March 1917.

(9) Plots of land at Indrad and Khokar in Savli Taluka, which were hitherto reserved as grass "beeds" for the Hujrat Paga, have been relinquished and handed over to the Revenue Department for cultivation.

(10) The Regimental *Bhois* who were hitherto without uniform have now been furnished with Khaki dress.

(11) The scale of gratuity to be given to the Bandmen has been revised.

(12) The staff office of the General has been reduced from the 1st of August 1917, as the functions of Senapati and General have devolved upon one and the same officer.

Personnel

14. General W. S. Birwood, Commanding Baroda Army, went on six months' combined leave from 11th January 1917 preparatory to resignation of State service. Colonel O. D. Rigg thereafter took up the combined duties of the Senapati and the General and performed them up to the close of the year. Major R. S. Parab, B.A., continued as Military Secretary and Brigade-Major except for a short period when the office was held by Captain K. Shiv Raj Singh, B. A.

Major J. Devine worked as Officer Commanding Cavalry Brigade from 1st February 1916 until 1st April 1917 when he took over the Infantry Brigade and delivered charge of the Cavalry Brigade to Major N. G. Shinde.

B.—Legislation.

(*a*) Legislative Acts.

Legal Remembrancer and Government Pleaders

15. Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., continued as Legal Remembrancer during the greater part of the year under report. During his absence on leave and in the summer vacation, when his services were temporarily

transferred to the Varishta Court, Mr. Manirai Trikamrai Joshipuia, B.A., LL.B., acted for him from 19th March 1917 to 17th June 1917. The Legal Remembrancer was as usual assisted in the conduct of civil and criminal litigation on behalf of Government by 39 Government pleaders, who worked satisfactorily during the year.

Acts and Rules published.

16. The Department published 16 acts and 49 sets of rules and issued 11 circulars of a general nature. Of the acts published, none was an original enactment, all of them being amending measures. Similarly all the rules, excepting those regarding the management of attached estates and regarding passports, were amendments in the existing rules rendered necessary for their efficient working.

Principal Acts amended.

17. Hitherto, all capital sentences and those of transportation had to receive confirmation of the Huzur; under the new amendment all these powers of punishments except that of banishment (देशनिकाल) have been delegated to the Varishta Court; the law, however, gives the aggrieved party a right of appeal to the Huzur in cases in which the Varishta Court has passed or confirmed a sentence of death, life imprisonment or transportation. Section 466 of the Code has been so amended as to withdraw from the District Magistrate the sole power of ordering the Government pleader to prefer an acquittal appeal with a view to enable Government to authorize any officer of its choice in that behalf to do so.

Under the amendment of the Stamp Act, the prescribed period of filing a complaint within six months from the date the Suba becomes aware of the commission of the offence is made applicable to offences falling under Sections 62 to 68 of that Act.

Other amendments made in several other sundry acts to meet the exigencies arising from time to time do not require special mention.

18. Of the sets of rules published, those framed under the Attached Estates Act lay down detailed instructions as to how the Suba and his subordinates should manage such estates.

Principal rules amended.

The rules regarding passports were framed with a view to meet the exigencies of the present times by placing necessary restrictions upon the movements of passengers coming into and going out of India through sea-ports situate in the State without the necessary passports.

Under the Court of Wards Act only property worth Rs. 1,500 and above could be taken under Government management. This clause has now been amended so that it is not enough for the property alone to attain this minimum limit, but it has to yield income sufficient enough to cover the expenses of the maintenance of the ward and of management in order to be entitled to the protection of the executive officers of the Government.

The amendment in the rules under the Sarvajanik Samstha Nibandha imposes certain duties on the Village Local Boards to visit and inspect the institutions from time to time with a view to see that they are properly managed.

The amendment in the rules regarding Pension and Gratuity fixes the maximum amount of pension payable to a servant retiring after service for 18 years and above upto 29 years.

The amendment in the rules regarding Agricultural Banks exempts them from payment of stamp and registration dues in transactions entered into by such Banks.

19. Among the circulars published may be mentioned one prohibiting the slaughter of cows on the occasion of Bakar-I-Id. It was the renewal of an old notification published in the year 1886.

Circulars published.

Bills published.

20. Though no important original act was promulgated during the year under report, the Department published as many as five important bills and invited suggestions from the general public. They were—

(1) The Companies Bill.
(2) The Arbitration Bill.
(3) Bill to amend the Transfer of Property Act.
(4) Bill to amend "the Disposition of Hindu Property Act."
(5) Bill to amend the local Criminal Procedure Code.

Keeping in touch with Foreign legislation

21. The Legal Remembrancer as usual kept himself in touch with foreign legislation, more especially with that of British India. The Bill to amend the Disposition of Hindu Property Act was introduced in consequence of this practice.

(b) Infant Marriage Prevention Act.

Operation of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act

22. The following tables show the figures regarding the working of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act:—

(I) Applications for exemption and offences.

Year	Applications for exemption		Offences against the Act		Percentage of fines more than Rs 10	Remarks.
	No of applications	Percentage of rejections.	No of cases	Percentage of convictions		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1915-16	60	31	4,837	91 4	39	
1916-17	331	5 7	7,407	81 5	17·5	12 persons were fined more than Rs. 50 and 122 more than Rs. 25.

(II) Analysis of percentage of persons granted exemptions according to their castes for the year 1916-17.

Year.	Brahmins.	Kshatriyas	Banyas.	Artisans, etc	Kunbis	Kolis.	Bhangis and Dheds.	Others.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1915-16	23·3	10·0	16 6	6 6	10·0	6 6	10 0	16 9	The greater number of applications was presented by the Gola Community of Baroda
1916 17	1 2	·96	1·2	32	1·2	·64	·64	93 84	

(III) Analysis of percentage of persons convicted according to their castes.

Year	Brahmins	Kshatriyas	Banyas	Kunbis	Artisan, etc	Kolis	Dheds and Bhangis	Miscellaneous	REMARKS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1915-16	4 5	4 2	1 2	16 6	5 4	18 2	16 1	33·8	
1916-17	3·4	2·5	1 1	17 2	2·7	26·6	16 5	36	

The figures show that the number of applications for exemption from the operation of the Act has considerably increased and the percentage of rejection of such applications has decreased to a remarkable extent. It was only in the Baroda City Munsiff's Court that as many as 286 applications were presented by the Gola Community and none of them seems to have been rejected. There is also a marked rise in the number of offences against the Act, which may probably

be due to increase in the total number of marriages owing to a prosperous year as well as to the lenient attitude of the Magistracy in inflicting punishments. Among the backward classes there is no appreciable change for the better as shown by the percentage of convictions amongst them.

(c) EXTRADITION.

23. During the year, His Highness' Government made extradition demands in 123 cases as against 125 last year and received similar demands in 99 cases from British India and Native States as compared with 136 last year.

Number of extradition demands and other figures

Year	Demands by Baroda		Demands on Baroda	
	Cases	Persons	Cases.	Persons.
1	2	3	4	5
1916-17	123	242	99	157
1915-16	125	226	136	248

Of these demands, 2 were withdrawn by Baroda, while out of the requisitions received 2 were withdrawn by the British authorities and 1 by one of the Native States. During the year, 217 persons were surrendered to Baroda in 115 cases; while Baroda surrendered 179 in 108 cases. Out of 253 extradited persons (including those that were awaiting trial at the end of last year), 96 were convicted in 67 cases, 88 were acquitted in 39 cases, 30 were discharged in 11 cases, 5 disposed of otherwise in 2 cases and 34 persons awaited trial in 17 cases.

During the year certificates for trial in British India were issued in 3 cases involving 9 accused persons charged with extraditable offences.

C.—Judicial.

(a) Organisation.

Personnel.

24. There were many changes in the personnel of the Varishta Court during the year. Mr. Vasudeo Gopal Bhandarkar, B.A., LL.B., continued as Chief Justice till the 23rd of April when he went on leave preparatory to retirement after the summer vacation. During his absence on leave, the Second Judge Mr. J. D. Khandalawala acted as Chief Justice till his own retirement on 14th June. When the Courts reopened after the vacation, Mr. B. P. Karandikar, B.A., LL B., who was working as Third Judge before, assumed charge of the post and continued as such till the end of the year; and Mr. Ramdatt W. Desai, B.A., LL.B., an experienced pleader of the High Court of Bombay, who was working as District Judge, Baroda, for a short time since his appointment in the State service, was promoted to the post of the Second Judge. Mr. R. H. Gokhale, B.A., LL.B., continued as an additional Judge throughout the year and with a view to render more help in clearing off the arrears Mr. Damubhai D. Mehta, B.A., LL.B., the District Judge of Baroda, was also appointed a Judge of the Varishta Court from September 1916 and remained there as such till the end of the year.

The retirement of two senior Judges from the Varishta Court was no doubt a loss to the Judicial Department. During his long career of over 12 years, Chief Justice Bhandarkar guided the affairs of the Judicial Department with a singleness of purpose and a devotion to duty which will long be remembered. His erudition, straightforwardness, and thorough grasp of law and of decided cases, Indian and Foreign, commanded great respect, and his high character has left a very favourable impression on all who came in contact with him either as colleagues, subordinates, pleaders or suitors.

Administrative work.

25. The administrative work of the Department was done by the Chief Justice.

Number of Courts.

26. The number of Courts was as follows :—

Varisht Court	1
District Judges' Courts including the City District Judge	5
Assistant Judges' Courts	4
Subordinate Judges' Courts	24
District Magistrates' Courts	4
Ex-officio Revenue Magistrates (Executive) ..	90
Ordinary Magistrates' Courts	24
Revenue Magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd Class powers (judicial)	29
Village Munsiffs' Courts	5
Other Officers invested with Civil Powers .	5
Courts of Village Panchayats exercising Civil and Criminal Powers	89

(*b*) CIVIL CASES.

File and disposal of Original Civil Cases

27. The work turned out by the Civil Courts in their Original Jurisdiction during the year is shown in the following table :—

Year	Number of Suits filed	Number of Suits disposed of (including the pending cases of the previous year).
1	2	3
1916–17 ..	19,377	18,030
1915–16 .	15,856	15,913

The number of suits pending disposal at the end of the year was 4,578 as against 3,231. Of these 438 Ordinary Suits

were of more than one year's standing as against 286 last year. This increase in the number of old suits is due to congestion of old cases in the Baroda City (127), Petlad (69), Dabhoi (77), Navsari (68), and Karjan (34) Munsiffs' Courts, and the District Courts of Kadi (19) and Baroda (10).

Classification of suits and percentages.

28. Classifying the suits, which are divisible into Ordinary and Small Causes Suits according to subject matter, their percentages stand as follows :—

Ordinary Suits	Percentages		Small Cause Suits	Percentages.	
	1916 17	1915-16		1916-17	1915-16.
1	2	3	1	2	3
Relating to money matters . .	73 7	69 6	Relating to contracts .	97 6	96 8
Relating to immoveable property	22 1	23 6	Relating to damages	4	·9
Relating to other matters	4 2	6 8	Relating to the recovery of possession or the value of movable property	2	2 3
	100	100		100	100

Disposal of ordinary suits.

29. The disposal of ordinary suits is shown below :—

Year	Cases filed.	Valuation in Rupees.	Disposed of (including pending cases)	Average duration of contested cases (in days).	Pending at the end of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1916–17	8,132	22,71,970	7,403	164	2,860
1915–16	6,271	19,64,383	6,390	190	2,131

Duration of non-contested suits

30. The average duration of non-contested ordinary suits was 32 against 47 days in the previous year.

Small Causes.

31. The disposal of Small Causes Suits was as under :—

Year.	Cases filed	Valuation in Rupees	Disposed of (including old pending cases)	Average duration of contested suits (in days)	Pending at the end of the year
1	2	3	4	5	6
1916-17	11,245	6,94,502	10,627	55	1,718
1915-16	9,585	6,07,536	9,523	61	1,100

Duration of non-contested suits

32. The average duration of non-contested Small Cause Suits was 30 days only, as against 29 in the previous year.

Darkhasts.

33. File and disposal of darkhasts was as follows :—

Year.	Filed.	Disposed of (including old pending cases)	Pending at the end of the year	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5
1916–17	18,177	17,506	3,832	146
1915–16	13,900	14,249	3,161	77

Percentage of mode of disposal.

34. The following table will show the percentages of the modes in which 17,506 Darkhasts were disposed of :—

Year	Stayed at the request of parties.	Struck off the file	Dealt with by rajinama, compromise, etc.	Actual execution
1	2	3	4	5
1916–17 ..	21·1	19·2	43·7	16
1915–16 .	19·9	20·2	41·8	18·1

35. The various ways in which satisfaction of Darkhasts was effected in cases wherein the aid of Courts was solicited are as shown below :—

Satisfaction of Darkhasts

Ways in which satisfaction was obtained	Percentage of Darkhasts in ordinary suits		Percentage of Darkhasts in small cause suits	
	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16.
1	2	3	4	5
Satisfaction obtained by actual payment of money	54 6	49 9	92 5	90 9
" obtained by delivery of possession	17 7	18 3	2	
" obtained by sale of immovable property	22	25 8		
" obtained by sale of movable property	3 5	4 2	5 1	7 1
" obtained by imprisonment of judgment-debtors	1 7	1 2	1 1	1 5
" obtained by giving periodical instalments	5	6	1 1	5
	100	100	100	100

Civil Appeals

36. The average duration and disposal of Civil appeals was as under :—

Year	Filed	Valuation in Rupees	Disposed of (including old pending cases)	Pending at the end of the year	Average duration (in days)	
					Contested appeals	Other appeals.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1916-17	1,435	4,72,842	1,514	973	276	119
1915-16	1,630	5,46,552	1,745	1,052	247	76

Result of Civil Appeals.

37. The Result of Civil Appeals :-

Year	Percentage of 1st appeals decided by Varishta Court			Percentage of 2nd appeals decided by Varishta Court			Percentage of appeals decided by District Judges		
	Confirmed	Reversed	Modified.	Confirmed.	Reversed	Modified.	Confirmed	Reversed.	Modified
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1916–17	57	14	29	78	8	14	57	23	20
1915–16	66	15	19	75	4	21	56	23	21

VILLAGE MUNSIFFS' COURTS.

Village Munsiffs' Courts

38. At the beginning of the year there were 5 Village Munsiffs' Courts, *viz.*, at Sortvad ,Kumliwada, Petlad, Variav and Dhanpura. Dhanpura Village Munsiff's Court was closed in the month of November. The following table will show the work turned out by these Courts .—

Year	Number of suits filed (including arrears).	Number of suits disposed of	Arrears	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5
1916–17	241	218	23	36
1915–16	441	428	13	27

CONCILIATORS.

Conciliators.

39. The system of conciliation was in force in 26 Talukas including the Baroda City as in the preceding year The number of conci-

liators was 193 as against 209 in the last year. The state of the file and its disposal was as under :—

Districts	1916-17			1915-16.		
	File with arrears	Disposal	Arrears	File with arrears	Disposal.	Arrears.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Baroda	6,548	6,076	472	6,245	5,937	308
Kadi	3,957	3,914	43	3,388	3,298	90
Navsari	1,236	1,188	48	1,163	1,136	27
Amreli	213	181	32	270	241	29
Total	11,954	11,359	595	11,066	10,612	454

As an experiment, the system has been declared optional in six places in the State for three years since 1914-15, and the result is that out of the total number of suits within cognisance of the Conciliators, nearly 50 per cent. were filed before them and the rest in the regular Courts. The question, however, as to whether this institution should be continued as optional or made compulsory with exclusive jurisdiction was under consideration.

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS.

Village Panchayats

40. In addition to the Village Munsiffs and Conciliators, there were in all 89 Village Panchayats empowered to dispose of judicial work in the year under report against 160 in the last year. The great decrease in number is due to the reason that the powers of the Panchayats of Kadi District were not renewed as required by rules, as no recommendation was received from the District before the end of the year under report.

The following table will show the work turned out by them :—

Year.	Filed (including arrears).	Disposed of	In Plaintiff's favour	In Defendant's favour.	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5	6
1916–17	244	222	193	29	8
1915–16	910	892	705	187	12

In order to give a fair trial to all Village Panchayats, Government propose to invest all Panchayats in villages with over 2,000 population with civil and criminal powers on a limited scale.

POSSESSORY SUITS.

Possessory Suits.

41. The file and disposal of Possessory Suits was as under :—

Year.	Suits for disposal	Suits disposed of	Pending	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5
1916–17 ..	732	595	137	41
1915–16 ..	649	518	131	36

Increase in the file of Civil work.

42. There was a general increase in the file of Civil Suits, Darkhasts, and claims taken before Conciliators during the year under report, owing to the comparative prosperity of the State in this year than in the last which was one of partial famine. The disposal was also in proportion to the file.

(c) Criminal Cases.

File, disposal and average duration of Criminal Cases

43. The following table will show the file, disposal and average duration of Criminal cases :—

Year	Filed	Disposed of (including old pending cases)	Average duration (in days).	Average duration of Summary Cases (in days)
1	2	3	4	5
1916–17	19,825	18,893	5	3
1915–16	17,170	16,577	6	3

No of cases tried by Sessions Judges

44. The number of cases tried by the Courts of Sessions Judges was 186 against 182 last year.

No. of accused tried and No of witnesses examined

45. The number of accused persons whose cases were disposed of was 39,693 as against 34,814 in the previous year, showing an average of two accused persons to each case. The total number of witnesses examined in the year was 21,768 against 23,402 in the previous year.

Percentage of Offences

46. Percentage of different kinds of offences :—

Year	Against property.	Against person	Against public justice.	Against tranquillity	Against marriage.	Fabricating false documents.	Against coinage.	Regarding Public service.	Other offences
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1916–17 ..	19·7	22·3	·4	3·7	2	·4	..	·6	50·9
1915–16 ..	23 6	25·4	·5	4·6	2 3	·4	..	·7	42·5

42% of the offences were against person and property during the year, while in the preceding year they were nearly half the total number.

Serious offences

47. The more serious cases in the year under report will be seen from the following table :—

Year	Murder.	Culpable homicide	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Dacoity	Robbery	House breaking.	Forgery.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1916–17	51	33	198	16	25	113	291	33
1915–16	48	26	263	12	31	87	188	21

The increase in the offences of robbery and house-breaking is significant.

Percentage of Convictions

48. Percentage of Convictions :—

Year	Convicted.	Acquitted or discharged
1	2	3
1916–17	77	23
1915–16	63	37

Punishments

49. The following statement will indicate the nature of punishments meted out :—

Year.	Capital sentence	Fines only	Imprisonment with or without fine.	Imprisonment with whipping.	Order to furnish security	Whipping only.	Solitary confinement.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1916–17	2	13,207	1,129	..	127	4	..
1915–16	5	9,117	1,266	..	126	5	..

Criminal Appeals.

50. The disposal of Criminal Appeals was as under :—

Year	File (including old pending cases)	Disposed of	Percentage of cases.		
			Confirmed	Modified	Reversed or remanded for retrial
1	2	3	4	5	6
1916–17	647	590	62%	12%	26%
1915–16	614	576	62%	12%	26%

Inamdars' Work.

Inamdars' work.

51. The number of Inamdars invested with Criminal Powers was 10 during the year as against 11 last year. Of these 6 Inamdars, *viz.*, the Thakors of Ghatu Dhanpura and Miyagam and the Inamdars of Ena, Deva-Talpad, Kanhi and Sultanpura only did some work. They had between them 16 cases, of which they tried and disposed of 14. The number of accused persons involved in these cases was 22. Out of these, 2 were convicted and fined and 20 were acquitted. Last year five Inamdars, *viz.*, the Thakors of Dhanpura and Miyagam and the Inamdars of Ena, Deva-Talpad and Kanhi tried and disposed of 22 cases involving 54 persons.

Pleaders and Mukhtyars.

Pleaders and Mukhtyars.

52. The number of Pleaders and Mukhtyars in the several Courts of this State was 417 against 379 last year. 16 Sanads were granted during the year for a period of two years only, while 23 new pleaders were permanently enrolled for the first time during the year. 1 Pleader died during the year. Of

the total number of pleaders, 4 were Barristers-at-law, 116 LL.B's., 4 High Court Pleaders, 34 District Pleaders, and the remaining 259 had either passed the Local Pleader's or Mukhtyar's Examinations.

Income and expenditure.

53. The total receipts of Civil and Criminal Courts (from stamps, court-fees, fines and other items) and the expenditure during the last two years were as under :—

Year.	Income	Expenditure.
1	2	3
	Rs	Rs
1916-17	4,26,859	4,70,469
1915-16 ..	3,75,742	4,60,405

Inspection

54. The Mukhya Kamdar of the Varishta Court, Mr. Motilal C. Desai, B.A., LL.B., inspected all the Subordinate Courts of the Kadi district during the year.

(*d*) General.

55. Circulars were issued—

(*a*) Exempting persons producing copies of decrees of British Courts from the payment of court-fees in this State on the principle of reciprocity.

(*b*) Cancelling the reciprocal arrangement with Bagasra State in Kathiawar, about the exemption from the payment of commission-fees, process-fees and postal charges on commissions issued by the Civil Courts of this State and the Civil Court of Bagasra.

(*c*) Enjoining Magistrates to record confessions of the accused persons brought before them for the purpose by the British Police.

(*d*) Making reciprocal arrangements with Bhadarwa Thakore for the production of certificates of length of service, leave, etc., of State servants, in criminal cases, free of any charge

and

Notifications were published—

(*a*) Giving certain additional powers about leave, appointments, etc., to the District Judges.

(*b*) Defining Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction over lands belonging to this State, and occupied by the Samlaya-Savali-Timba Ry., the Dhari Extension of the Amreli-Khijadia-Chalala Ry., the Dabhoi-Jarod-Samlaya Ry., the Kosamba-Jankhvav Ry., the Motipura-Tanakhla Ry., the Petlad-Vaso-Pij Ry., the Varetha-Ambaji Ry., and the Bodeli-Chhota-Udaipur Railway.

D.—Police.

Personnel.

56. Mr. R. S. F. Macrae was in charge of the Department from the 1st of August 1916 to the 5th of September 1916, when he went on War duty. Mr. Hirst of the Bihar and Orissa Police succeeded him. He joined on the 5th September, but as he had to return to his province to complete some special work, the charge of the Department was temporarily handed over to Mr. B. R. Chavan, the then Baroda District Police Naib Suba, on the 16th of September and resumed by Mr. Hirst on the 14th October. Mr. Hirst continued in office for the rest of the year.

Sanctioned strength.

57. The sanctioned strength of the force, excluding non-effectives but including the Criminal Investigation Department, was 1,024 officers and 3,961 men as against 1,025 officers and 3,961 men in the previous year, the decrease of one officer being due to the abolition of the Joint Police Naib Suba's post in the Baroda District. The force consisted of 199 mounted and

4,786 foot police. The strength of the Criminal Investigation Department remained the same as that in the last year.

Water and Railway Police

58. The Water-Police in the Amreli District and the Railway Police in the Baroda, Kadi and Navsari Districts continued unchanged.

Distribution of the sanctioned strength

59. The distribution of the sanctioned strength, excluding the Criminal Investigation Department, the Finger Print Bureau, and places kept vacant is shown in the following statement:—

District.	Strength.	Jail and Treasury Guards.	Palace, Office and other guards.	Tainat.	Water order-lies and Head-quarter duties	Reserve	Engaged in prevention and detection of crime.	Vacancies.
Baroda	1,763	88	269	100	110	132	914	150
Kadi	1,569	127	54	76	93	236	838	145
Navsari	675	83	17	45	61	2	353	114
Amreli	555	4	8	40	48	92	332	31
Total	4,562	302	348	261	312	462	2,437	440

The total number of places kept vacant was 400 as against 421, owing to the opening of the Sayaji Ganj Division in the Baroda City.

The number of vacancies has increased from 206 to 440 owing apparently to the unattractive pay in the lower ranks.

Caste and Creed.

60. The distribution of the force by religions was as follows:—

	1916-17	1915-16.
Hindoos	2,163	2,273
Mohamedans	1,947	2,052
Other religions .. .	12	11
Total ..	4,122	4,336

The percentage belonging to warlike classes, *viz.*, Mohamedans, Marathas, Rajputs, Kolis and Bhils, was 69 as against 71 last year.

Education.

61. The percentage of men able to read and write was 54 as against 52·28 in the preceding year. The increase, though small, is satisfactory.

Training.

62. The Head Quarter Schools carried out their usual programme of instruction during the year, though seriously handicapped by the number of vacancies. The following is the number of Police Officers and men who passed the various Departmental and other examinations :—

Examinations.			Number of officer and men
Sar Fauzdar's examination		..	1
Fauzdar's	,,		3
Naib Fauzdar's	,,	..	18
Ambulance.	,,	.	17

Our Police Training Class established in the Baroda *Fad* did its work satisfactorily, 9 out of 10 students having been successful in the final examination. During the year under report, 6 students were added to the Class for the training of Fauzdars, as our students could not be admitted into the Saugor or Nasik Police Training Schools.

Drill, Discipline and Physical Training.

63. Full attention was paid by all the Police Naib Subas to drill. Physical training was also imparted at the District Head Quarters. Selected officers and men were as usual sent to the Infantry Regiments at Baroda and Dhari for a course of instruction in drill. Athletic sports were held in all the districts, and prizes were awarded to the winners from the allotment sanctioned for the purpose. Men from Baroda and Amreli Districts also took part in the Olympic

games held during the visit of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay to Baroda in February 1917.

Target practice.

64. Ball practice was carried out in all the districts and the usual district prizes were awarded.

Uniform.

65. Except for a slight alteration in the cut of the Fouzdar's and Sar Fouzdar's coats, there was no material alteration in the uniform.

Case of misconduct

66. The only case worthy of note was that of a Waghodia Taluka Naib Fauzdar, who was dismissed for extorting money on the pretext of a false rape case.

Punishments.

67. The number of officers and men punished was 2,495 (130 judicially and 2,365 departmentally) as against 2,098 (59 judicially and 2,039 departmentally) last year. The percentage of those punished to the actual force being 54 as against 46 last year. The Baroda District is responsible for the increase, which is attributed to the extra work caused by the large number of vacancies and to the poor quality of the recruits obtained.

Rewards.

68. 153 officers and men received money rewards as against 113 last year. 20 men and officers were promoted for good work as against 2 in the previous year.

Health.

69. The health of the force, with the usual exception of Baroda and Navsari Districts, was good. In these two districts quinine tablets were freely distributed with some advantage to check the ravages of malaria. No district suffered from Cholera during the year. Plague, however, made its appearance in some talukas.

70. Progress made under this head was satisfactory. Police lines at Gandevi and Sidhpur and the Bazar gate extension at Navsari, which were under construction last year, were completed during the year. Ganja-khana lines, Piploi Thana under Bhadran, Visnagar Police Lines and Avakhal Thana were under construction. Of the sum of Rs. 60,000 allotted for the year for the Head Quarters buildings at Mehsana, Rs. 59,561 were spent. Besides these, a number of other smaller buildings were also constructed.

Police buildings.

71. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 8,07,726 as against Rs. 8,35,937 in the previous year. The decrease of Rs. 28,211 was mainly due to the increase in the number of vacancies and to smaller expenditure on travelling allowances and on the purchase of dead-stock articles.

Expenditure.

The average cost per man of the population came to Re. 0-6-4 as against Re. 0-6-6 in the previous year.

The average cost per head of the force came to Rs. 162 as against Rs 191-11-7 in the preceding year

The following table shows the different Heads of Charges under which expenditure was incurred.

Heads of charges.	Expenditure in the year 1916–17	Expenditure in the year 1915–16	Increase	Decrease
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs a. p.	Rs. a. p	Rs a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Pay and allowances	6,89,759 12 9	7,33,399 13 5		43,640 0 8
Dress, arms and accoutrements	59,359 1 6	43,914 6 0	15,444 11 6	...
Dead-stock	2,241 14 10	2,873 13 2	..	631 14 4
Contingent and miscellaneous ..	54,398 13 3	55,062 9 11	...	663 12 8
Temporary	1,966 11 11	686 3 6	1,280 8 5	....
Total ..	8,07,726 6 3	8,35,936 14 0	16,725 3 11	44,935 11 8

Net decrease .. Rs. 28,210-7-9.

The increase in expenditure under the head of arms and accoutrements was due to the purchase of leather belts for the force and that under the head 'Temporary' to the allowances given to tutors of the local Police Training Class.

Offences reported to the Police.

72. The total number of cognizable offences reported to the Police during the year was 3,820 (3,817+3 dormant file cases) as against 3,745 (3,740+5 dormant file cases) last year. The increase of 75 cases falls under offences against property and miscellaneous offences. The following statement shows the fluctuation in reported crime, according to districts, for the last 5 years excluding the cases on the dormant file :—

Year	Baroda.	Kadi	Navsari	Amreli	Total
1912-13	1,894	1,323	329	424	3,970
1913-14	1,631	1,106	241	346	3,364
1914-15	1,929	975	228	344	3,476
1915-16	2,013	929	300	498	3,740
1916-17	2,183	964	236	434	3,817

Classes of offences

73. The following comparative table gives particulars of reported crime under all classes according to districts, for the last two years:—

No.	OFFENCES	BARODA				KADI				NAVSARI				AMRELI				TOTAL			
		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate	
		15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17
	Against Person.																				
1	Murder	16	16	.		19	17	1	..	1	1	..	..	8	5	..	.	44	39	1	..
2	Attempt at murder	5	3			2	1	.		..	.	..	.	2	1	1	.	9	5	1	..
3	Culpable homicide	9	6			8	7	..		6	2	..		1	..		.	24	15	..	..
4	Grievous hurt	63	41	7	9	58	67	12	4	28	14	8	6	17	8	7	4	166	130	34	23
5	Rape . .	4	5		2	3	3			1	2	..	1	2	2	.	..	10	12	..	3
6	Kidnapping and abduction	15+ 2 D	13	5	2	6	10	2	1	4	.	1	..	2	1	..	1	27+ 2 D	24	8	4
7	Drugging . . .	2	1			6	3	2			..	..	..	2	.		..	10	4	2	..
8	Causing death, etc, by rash act	4	1			2	1			2	4	..	.	..	1		..	8	7		.
9	Miscellaneous .	111	107	30	25	60	72	26	29	12	6	15	7	42	32	11	13	225	217	82	74
	Total	229+ 2 D	193	42	38	164	181	43	34	54	29	24	14	76	50	19	18	523+ 2 D	453	128	104
	Against Property.																				
10	Dacoity or preparation	5	4			4	2		1	.	.	.		3	..		..	12	6	..	1
11	Robbery	35	25	4	3	19	16	3	1	11	1	4	.	16	8		..	81	50	11	4
12	Theft with house-breaking	419+ 1 D	481	.	.	153+ 2 D	119+ 1 D	2		56	40	1	.	83	68+ 1 D	1	..	711+ 3 D	708+ 2 D	4	..
13	Theft { Cattle .	26	33	.		50	46+ 1 D	2	1	4	6		1	11	6	8	2	91	91+ 1 D	4	4
	Theft { Other	536	519	47	33	267	261	29	19	93	69	16	4	163	179	11	18	1,059	1,028	103	74
14	Associating with criminals		.		.			..			..	..	.	..	.		..	..	..	..	..
15	Receiving stolen property ..	11	8	..	1	6	6	.	1	2	2	.	..	5	5		..	24	21	..	2
16	Criminal breach of trust.. .	34	41	13	15	8	25	13	8	5	14	9	4	17	20	6	11	64	100	41	38

No	OFFENCES	BARODA				KADI				NAVSARI				AMRELI				TOTAL			
		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate	
		15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17	15–16	16–17
	Against Property —*contd*																				
17	Cheating	65	46	18	5	35	18	30	10	3	3	2	2	4	6	3	4	107	73	53	21
18	House-breaking	120	141	4	20	26	21	5	3	23	27	11	20	24	18	1	2	193	207	21	45
19	Miscellaneous .	231	322	28	23	99	177	831	967	17	8	14	5	25	27	3	18	372	534	886	1,013
	Total	1,482 +1 D	1 620	114	100	667	691+ 2 D	915	1,011	214	170	57	36	351	337+ 1 D	37	55	2,714 +3D	2,818 +3D	1,123	1,202
	Miscellaneous.																				
20	Public tranquillity ..	18	10	1	4	10	16	5	17	4	2	9	4	6	4	1	2	38	32	16	27
21	Harbouring offenders .						1		.		..			1	6	.	.	1	7		..
22	Pretending to be a Govt servant		.							.						.				.	..
23	Offences against coinage	2	1	..		1	.		.		2			1				4	3	.	..
24	Offences against currency notes		..				.	.									.			..	..
25	Offences against justice	17	9			6	1		.	4	4	1	.	4	3	..	.	31	17	1	..
26	Offences against marriages .	25	14	34	22	15	13	27	39	3		1		6	6	6	7	49	33	68	68
27	Other offences	240	336	153	45	66	61	12	6	21	29	111	89	53	28	10	2	380	454	286	142
	Total	302	370	188	71	98	92	44	62	32	37	122	93	71	47	17	11	503	546	371	237
	Grand Total .	2,013 +3 D F	2,183	344	209	929+ 2 D F	964+ 2 D	1,002	1,107	300	236	203	143	498	434+ 1 D	73	84	3,740 +5 D F.	3 817 +3 D	1,622	1,543

In class I—Offences against person, there was a decrease of 70 cases, the percentage being 11·87 as against 13·98 in the previous year. Kadi showed an increase of 17 cases, while Baroda, Navsari, and Amreli showed a decrease of 36, 25 and 26, respectively.

In class II—Offences against property, there was an increase of 104 cases, the percentage being 73·83 as against 72·57 last year. Baroda and Kadi showed an increase of 138 and 24 cases respectively, while Amreli and Navsari returned a decrease of 14 and 44, respectively.

In class III—Miscellaneous, there was an increase of 43 cases, the percentage being 14·30 as against 13·45 last year. Baroda and Navsari showed an increase of 68 and 5 cases, respectively, while Amreli and Kadi showed a decrease of 24 and 6, respectively.

Proportion of crime to Police

74. The proportion of reported cognizable crime to the Police employed in the detection and prevention of crime was 1·56 as against 1·43 last year, the difference being due to the increase in crime and in the number of vacancies.

Arrears.

75. Besides the 3,820 cases mentioned above, the police had to deal with 658 pending cases of the last year, as against 591 in the previous year. The total number of cases for Police enquiry was therefore 4,478.

Cases disposed of.

76. Of the cases for disposal, 3 were time-barred as against 2 last year; 648 against 653 were false cases; 1,122 or 25·06 per cent. of cases against 1,033 or 23·82 per cent. were placed on dormant file 159 or 3·55 per cent. of cases as against 130 or 2·99 per cent. were either compounded or withdrawn; 701 or 15·65 per cent. of cases, as against 658 or 15·13 per cent. remained under enquiry by the Police at the close of the year; 168 or 3·75 per cent. of cases as against 201 or 4·63 per cent. were not

detected or apprehended and the remaining 1,677 or 37·45 per cent. of cases as against 1,661 or 38·31 per cent. were committed for trial during the year.

Disposal of cases after commitment.

77. Of the 1,842 cases with the Magistrates (1,677 committed during the year, 165 pending from the preceding year), 142 against 141 last year were either compounded or withdrawn; 1,140 against the same number ended in conviction; 396 against 388 ended in discharge or acquittal and 164 against 165 remained pending trial with the Magistrates. The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried was 67·94 against 68·30 in the previous year.

Taking districts separately, the percentage of cases convicted was as under :--

District	Percentage in 1915–16	Percentage in 1916–17.
Baroda ..	72 93	75·50
Kadi ..	62 38	55·70
Navsari	70·58	69·33
Amreli	60 51	62·65

Except in Kadi, where the fall is regrettable, these figures do not require comment.

Percentage of convictions in important crimes.

78. Taking important offences separately, it would appear that out of 47 true cases of murder and culpable homicide 38 were tried, the percentage of convictions to cases tried being 63·16 as against 48·65 last year. Out of 8 true cases of dacoity 5 were tried, the percentage of convictions being 60 as against 75. Out of 27 true cases of

robbery 17 were tried, the percentage of convictions being 64·70 as against 48·50. Out of 664 true cases of burglary 152 were tried, the percentage of convictions being 65·79 against 78·34.

Property stolen and recovered

79. Property was stolen in 1,701 cases out of 4,478 investigated by the Police, and in 910 cases it was recovered. The alleged value of property stolen was Rs. 2,34,062 and that of property recovered was Rs. 45,779, the percentage being 19·6 as against 27·2 last year. The fall in percentage was due to the reported theft of a valuable pearl necklace being undetected in the Baroda District. The percentage of cases in which property was recovered was 53·43 against 53·10.

Number of persons arrested and their disposal

80. The number of persons arrested in all the cases dealt with during the year was 3,755 as against 3,681 last year. Of these 540 were disposed of before trial (136 were released by the Police, 400 by Magistrates, and 4 died before trial). Of the number remaining, 2,792 were tried (1,517 convicted and 1,275 acquitted or discharged) 4 died and 11 escaped during trial. At the end of the year 127 persons remained pending enquiry with the Police and 281 pending trial with Magistrates. The ratio of persons convicted to persons tried was 54·20 per cent. as against 55·37 per cent. in the previous year.

Magistrates' direct cases

81. Cases coming before Magistrates directly decreased from 1,622 to 1,543 during the year under report. The District figures were as under :—

	1916-17.	1915-16.
Baroda	209	344
Kadi	1,107	1,002
Navsari	143	203
Amreli	84	73
	1,543	1,622

It will be noticed that except in Kadi and Amreli, where there was an increase of 105 and 11 cases, respectively, there has been a satisfactory fall.

Percentages of conviction in these cases were as under—

Baroda ..	.. .. 28·70	against	53·17
Kadi ..	.. .. 1·98	„	2
Navsari ..	.. .. 55·94	„	59·09
Amreli ..	. .. 21·42	„	23·06

Caste of criminals.

82. As usual, Bhils, Kolis and Waghris formed the majority of the criminals.

Criminal Investigation Department

83. Khan Saheb Enayatkhan Chandkhan Durani remained in charge of the Department from 1st August 1916 to 5th June 1917, and on his reversion to British service, Khan Sahib Abdul Karim Mia Nuruddinmia Shaikh, whose services were lent by the Bombay Government, succeeded him. A few minor changes were inaugurated in the Department but the strength remained the same.

The Department had 11 cases against 24 for disposal including 8 cases pending at the close of the previous year. Of these 6 ended in conviction, one was acquitted by the Sessions Court, one remained pending trial and one was not sent up, as the complainant died and the evidence was insufficient. Thus there remained 2 cases pending investigation at the end of the year. Of the 11 cases, 4 were against property, 1 against person, and 6 of forgery and against coinage.

As regards preventive measures, there was a balance of 2 out of 4 cases that were independently worked out by the Criminal Investigation Department last year. Of these two, one against Abdul Aziz could not be sent up for want of sufficient evidence and the other against Kashinath Moreshwar remained pending further enquiry.

Cases of bad livelihood against 7 persons remained pending decision in the courts last year. All these persons were bound down during the year. 5 new cases of bad livelihood were worked out with the assistance of the local Police in which also all the persons were either bound down or sent to Jail.

Besides these cases, the Criminal Investigation Department did its usual work of a confidential and political nature.

Finger Print Bureau

84. The Finger Print Bureau remained under the control of the Chief Detective Officer. The number of slips on record at the beginning of the year was 16,994 to which 1,227 were added during the year bringing the total to 18,221. Of the new slips received, 1,035 were from local and 192 from foreign officers, as against 960 and 137 in the previous year. Out of these 48 slips were removed—1 of a convict, 39 of ex-convicts who died and 8 of persons whose convictions did not come under Finger Print Bureaux Rules—leaving a balance of 18,173 on record at the end of the year. The number of slips sent to other Bureau for record was 223 as against 298 last year. 1,430 slips were received for trace, as against 1,733 in the previous year, 933 being from local and 497 from foreign officers, as against 1,155 and 578 respectively in the previous year. Of these 212 were traced as against 248, giving a percentage of 14·82 against 14·31 last year.

The Bureau sent 850 slips for trace to other Bureaux as against 1,230 in the preceding year. Of these 101 were traced as against 175 last year.

The Bureau drew the attention of the officers concerned in 17 cases against 21 last year to inadequate sentences passed with the result that in 2 cases the sentences were enhanced as against 11 last year. In 7 cases—5 criminal and 2 civil—officers from the Bureau were summoned either to prove previous convictions or to give expert evidence.

The Bureau traced one absconder from our Central Jail from a slip received from the Dhulia Jail.

85. The following were some of the reforms effected during the year :—

(1) A class was opened for training candidates for Fouzdars' posts.

(2) Fouzdars were authorized to commit cases against habitual offenders directly to first class magistrates, having powers to award enhanced punishment under Sections 80 to 82 (Local Penal Code).

(3) The number of Police divisions in Baroda City was increased from two to three for efficiency of work.

(4) Special reports of serious crime were permitted to be despatched directly to the Police Commissioner instead of through the Subhas.

(5) First Information reports were despatched direct to the trying Magistrates.

(6) Maps of Talukas were prepared showing the distribution of crime against property.

E.—Prisons.

Personnel.

86. This department was under the control of the Police Commissioner, as in the past, with the designation of Inspector-General of Prisons.

Number of Jails and lock-ups

87. There was no change in the number of jails and lock-ups in the State during the year under report. They were as under :—

1 Central Jail, 4 District Jails and 40 Lock-ups.

Total number of admissions.

88. The total number of admissions in all jails and lock-ups was 4,249 (3,932 males and 317 females) as against 4,616 (4,267 males and 349 females) in the previous year—a decrease of 367.

89. The total daily average number of prisoners in all jails and lock-ups during the year was 843 (800 males and 43 females) as against 869 (822 males and 47 females) in the previous year.

Total daily average

90. Of the total number of convicts admitted, 90·0 as against 86·7 per cent. were Hindus, 9·8 as against 11·96 were Mahomedans and 0·2 as against 1·34 were of other religions.

Religion

91. The ages between 15 and 40 contributed, as in years past, the largest number of criminals, *viz.*, 1,042 as against 1,167 in the previous year.

Age

92. 15·7 per cent. of the total number of convicts as against 16·0 were literate.

Education

93. Labourers, cultivators and private servants formed the largest portion of the jail population.

Occupation

94. The offences, with which the majority of the convicts were charged, were thefts, burglaries and hurt.

Offences

95. Most of the sentences were for periods upto 6 months.

Terms of sentences

96. The total expenditure during the year, exclusive of guards for lock-ups was Rs. 1,01,604 as against Rs. 95,526 last year. The Central Jail was mainly responsible for the increase in expenditure, which was due to the higher wages of the staff and increase in the cost of clothing and bedding or prisoners, etc., consequent upon the higher market rates of material owing to the War.

Expenditure

97. The average cost per prisoner was Rs. 120-8-5, as against Rs. 109-14-2 in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 10-10-3 under this head was due to the increase in general expenditure and to a smaller daily average of jail population.

Average cost.

98. The total earnings in all jails and lock-ups were Rs. 26,997 as against Rs. 23,716 in the preceding year. The increase was chiefly contributed by the Central Jail, where the profits accruing from the Jail Garden and Factory were larger during the year.

Earnings.

99. The Thana system of sending selected prisoners to the Model Farm and allowing them freedom continued to work satisfactorily.

Thana system.

100. There was no occasion to deport any lifers from the Central Jail to the Andamans.

Deportation.

F.—Registration.

101. Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., was in charge of the Department throughout the whole year.

Personnel.

102. The following statement gives the number of documents received for registration, their aggregate value, and the gross receipts and expenditure of the Department, for the years 1915-16 and 1916-17 :—

Documents, their receipts and expenditure.

Year	Number of documents	Aggregate value	Gross receipts	Expenditure.
		Rs	Rs	Rs
1915-16	40,974	1,52,29,864	1,35,590	37,808
1916-17	46,883	1,85,79,193	1,58,165	39,714

From these figures, it will be seen that during the year the number of documents received for registration was greater by 5,909 than in the previous year, which was one of partial famine in Kadi and Amreli. It has always been a marked feature that a prosperous year brings a larger number of documents for registration. The increase in the number of docu-

ments is obviously the reason for the increase in the aggregate value as well as in the gross receipts.

Improved salaries

103. The salaries of clerks and sub-registrars, which were hitherto found to be inadequate, were revised during the year to the satisfaction of all concerned and this fact was mainly responsible for the enhanced expenditure.

Detailed classification

104. The following is a detailed classification of documents received for registration under different heads during the year and the year preceding :—

Classes of Documents.	1915–16.	1916–17.
Immovable property—		
(i) Compulsory—		
Gifts	352	374
Sales	18,992	23,854
Mortgages with possession	15,513	16,350
Mortgages without possession	2,654	2,504
Instruments of partition	602	503
Leases above three years	810	825
Others	891	1,233
Total	39,814	45,733
(ii) Optional—		
Leases upto 3 years	239	238
Wills and authorities to adopt	352	370
Total	591	608
Total of (i) and (ii)	40,405	46,341
Movable property—		
(i) Compulsory—		
Money bonds above Rs 1,000	38	46
(ii) Optional —		
Money bonds upto Rs. 1,000	79	93
Instruments of pledges with possession	10	10
Instruments of pledges without possession	33	32
Divorce	56	53
Others	353	308
Total of (ii)	531	496
Total of (i) and (ii)	569	542
GRAND TOTAL	40,974	46,883

Out of 46,883 documents received for registration this year, 1,104 were of optional nature while the remaining 45,779 were of compulsory nature. As many as 42,708 or nearly 91% of the total number related to mortgages and sales of immovable property.

Organization.

105. Besides the Mukhya Adhikari and the four District Registrars (Subhas), there were 45 Sub-Registrars or Nondhani Kamdars.

Inspection.

106. Twenty-one offices of Sub-Registrars were inspected by the Personal Assistant and 7 visited by the Head of the Department.

G.—Joint Stock Companies and Benevolent Societies.

Joint Stock Companies.

107. In the beginning of the year there were 29 Joint Stock Companies on the Register and two more companies were registered during the year under report, thus bringing the total to 31. The two new Joint Stock Companies were The Pratapsing Commercial Bank, Limited (Rs. 10,00,000), and The Ahmedabad Advance Mills Company, Limited (Rs. 10,00,000). The latter is a cotton mill at Ahmedabad and has been registered in the Bombay Presidency, but was registered in this State over again. The authorized, subscribed and paid-up capitals of all the companies were Rs. 91,57,250, Rs. 67,09,090 and Rs. 54,61,240, respectively. During 1915-16, six Joint Stock Companies were sent into liquidation, but in no case were the proceedings completed during the year. During the year under report, three more companies were sent into liquidation. All these were dormant and did not send in their returns. They were, therefore, forced to wind up their business. No company reduced or increased its capital during the year. Of the 31 Companies on the register at the end of the year, 9 were under liquidation, 1 was dormant, while 21 were working.

108. As a result of the policy laid down in the previous year, the balance sheets and members' lists were returned by the companies more regularly. Most of the working companies sent their returns in time. Three companies, however, were prosecuted as they failed in spite of reminders to send the returns and to hold the necessary statutory meetings in time. In two cases, the companies complained against were fined and in the third, the prosecution was withdrawn as the requirements of the Companies Act were complied with before the case came on for hearing.

Prosecutions for infringement of the Act.

The balance sheets and other returns of the companies were carefully scrutinized.

109. In the previous year there were 14 Benevolent Societies registered under the Benevolent Societies Act. No new Society was registered during the year. Out of these 14, 9 were Caste Institutions regulating social customs, 1 was a society for the promotion of industries among helpless women, one was a Home for the Destitute, and three were for the en-couragement of education among students.

Benevolent Societies.

110. The total receipts for the year from both the Joint Stock Companies and Benevolent Societies amounted to Rs. 432 as against Rs. 174 in the previous year.

Receipts.

H.—Court of Wards.

111. The number of wards at the beginning of the year under report was 88. Superintendence was assumed over 6 new wards and with-drawn from 7, leaving 87 wards at the end of the year.

Number of wards.

112. Arrangements for the education of the wards and management of their properties remained the same as in the preceding year. The minor Mulubha of Monpur under Ratanpur was given instruction in Revenue and Fouzdari work in pursuance of the orders of the Naib Dewan.

Education of wards

113. The value of the properties managed amounted to Rs. 20,89,120 and their annual income to Rs. 1,54,310. Out of the total savings of the wards, which amounted to Rs. 2,07,695, Rs. 1,62,027 were deposited in the Bank of Baroda, Rs. 6,749 in the Postal Savings Bank and Rs. 15,425 in Shares and other Securities, leaving Rs. 23,494 on hand.

Wards' properties

Steps were taken during the year under report, as in the past, to reduce the debts of the wards and to make their property as productive as possible.

I.—Religious and Charitable Institutions.

(ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.)

114. Under the orders of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar, the Ecclesiastical Department was newly created and Mr. Jagdish Chandra Chatterji, B.A., appointed Dharmadhyaksha with the following branches and activities under him :—

Creation and constitution of the new Department.

(*a*) the Devasthan Department ;

(*b*) the regulation of charities and public charitable Trusts ;

(*c*) Sanskrit Pathashalas, the Purohits' Class and religious education in general ;

(*d*) Sanskrit and Oriental Research ; the collection of old manuscripts and the publication of the Gaekwar's Oriental Series ;

(*e*) public lectures on Comparative Religion and Ancient Indian Culture ; and

(*f*) Archæological Research.

As regards (*a*), (*b*) and the Purohits' class under (*c*) he was directed to work in collaboration with the Revenue Department and as regards the other items under (*c*) and (*d*) and (*f*), with the Education, the Central Library and the Public Works (Archæological Branch) Departments. By an order of the Huzur the whole of the Devasthan Branch of the Sar Suba office, that was in charge of the Sar Suba from the beginning of the year under report, was transferred to the Dharmadhyaksha, who accordingly remained in charge of it from 5th April 1917 to the close of the year. From the same date he took over the charge of the (*c*) and (*d*) branches that were till then under the direct control of the Minister of Education. Soon after the appointment of the Dharmadhyaksha, the post of the Devasthan Assistant of the Naib Suba's grade was abolished and the services of Mr. Jamnadas G. Mehta of the Vahivatdar's grade were transferred from the Revenue Department to assist the Dharmadhyaksha in the Devasthan Branch, and those of Mr. C. D. Dalal of the Central Library in the work pertaining to the (*d*) branch.

Institutions under Government management.

115. The number of institutions under direct Government management was 44 as before. Two of these, *viz.*, Kedareshwar *Kichadi* and *Gyarmi Karkhanas* were charitable institutions for maintenance of the Hindu and Mahomedan destitutes in the City of Baroda respectively. These continued to be under the direct management of the Head Office, while the rest were managed by the respective local officers. The total expenditure of all these institutions was Rs. 66,276 as against Rs. 80,260 in the preceding year.

Property.

116. The moveable and immoveable properties belonging to these institutions were worth Rs. 19,46,266 as against Rs. 18,09,361 in the preceding year.

117. The following table shows the details regarding the Reserve and General Funds standing in the name of the Dharmadhyaksha (Devasthan Adhikari) :—

Reserve and General Funds.

Name of Fund.	Amount in hand at the beginning of the year.	Contributions added during the year	Total	Expenditure.	Balance at the close of the year.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.
Reserve Fund	3,524	5,137	8,661	6,687	1,974
General Fund	2,66,581	39,448	3,06,029	23,823	2,82,206

118. The extraordinary expenses of all these institutions beyond those budgetted, chiefly those of substantial repairs to buildings, are met out of the Reserve Fund to which all contribute in proportion to their respective incomes; and the General Fund, which is made up of their net savings, is meant for religious and charitable objects of public utility. Out of the General Fund, an amount of about Rs. 12,000 is spent every year on the maintenance of certain dispensaries in the Kadi District, and Rs. 2,450 and Rs. 300 are contributed annually towards the expenses of the Orphanage at Amreli and the Maharani Chimnabai Saheb Maternity Relief at Baroda. The balance of this fund stood at Rs. 2,82,206 at the end of the year, of which Rs. 1,97,926 were invested in Promissory Notes of the nominal value of Rs. 2,08,500 and Rs. 30,000 were invested in the Ahmedabad-Prantij Railway shares, and Rs. 35,254 were advanced as loan. The rest of the balance, *viz.*, Rs. 19,026 was deposited in the Bank of Baroda.

Use of Funds.

119. Religious and charitable institutions managed by private individuals under the general supervision of the State during the year numbered 3,996, enjoying an aggregate approximate grant of Rs. 2,95,196 in the

Institutions under private management.

form of inami villages, Barkhali lands and cash allowances. Of these, those having an annual income of Rs. 200 and upwards, are required, by the Charitable Endowments Act, to get their budgets sanctioned by Government every five years. The managers of 135 such institutions have already tendered their budgets.

Itinerant religious preachers

120. Six itinerant religious preachers were already attached to certain temples in Baroda and Amreli Districts, their duty chiefly being to go about in the respective Mahals from village to village and to enlighten the villagers by preaching on religious and social questions on advanced lines. One such additional preacher was appointed in the course of the year.

Schemes for management of Dwarka and Beyt Temples

121. The schemes submitted by the Devasthan Department for the better management of the famous temples at Dwarka and Beyt having been returned for re-submission on the lines of the Dakor Temple Scheme, that for Dwarka has already been so submitted and is receiving attention of Government, and that for Beyt is being matured by the Department.

Inspection; publication of books

122. During the year 121 institutions in the Baroda, Kadi and Amreli Districts were inspected. A (Marathi) book on the annual *Shraddha* Ceremony, prepared by the Devasthan Assistant, Mr. M. K. Nadkarni, is in press, and the manual containing the rules and regulations as well as general policy and principles governing the Department has already been published. Gujarati translations of the books on Marriage Ritual and Funeral Ceremony have already been prepared under the orders of Government, the one regarding Marriage Ritual being in press.

123. The Charitable Endowments Act, which has been enacted with a view to ensure proper administration of religious and charitable institutions, is gradually leading to a general improvement in the tone of their working and will, as time marches on, meet with increased acceptance and appreciation on the part of the people.

Working of the Act

Scheme for the training of Purohits

124. A regular scheme for the training of *Purohits* is under contemplation and will be submitted to Government for approval before long.

Installation of Shri Shankaracharya.

125. Shri Shantyanand Saraswati having been recognised by His Highness' Government to be the fit person to hold the *Gadi* of the *Sharada Math* at Dwarka, after the demise of the late Shankaracharya Madhava Tirth, was duly installed as Shankaracharya at Dwarka on 5th June 1917 with all State honours and public enthusiasm.

CHAPTER III.

FINANCE.

A.—Organization and Personnel.

Personnel

1. Mr. A. N Datar, B.A., LL.B., A.M. (Columbia), held the office of the Accountant-General throughout the year.

Functions of the Department

2. The Department as mentioned in the previous report is divided into ten branches in accordance with its three-fold functions, *viz.*, Audit, Accounts and Finance. The main branch is the Central Controlling Office of the Department under the direct supervision of the Accountant-General, helped by an Assistant. All important matters involving questions bearing directly or indirectly on the finances of the State are disposed of in this branch.

Civil and Military Audit

3 The Civil Audit Branch under the supervision of the Assistant Accountant-General of the Main Branch examines all vouchers excepting those relating tc the Public Works, the Railway and the Military Departments, on the Post-Audit System. The Military Audit Branch, also, under the control of a separate Assistant, audits the vouchers of the Military Department.

Pensions and Gratuities.

4. In the Civil Departments, 148 new pensions were sanctioned and 46 lapsed through death. At the close of the year, the total number of Civil pensioners stood at 1,054, drawing an aggregate annual pension of Rs. 2,44,152. Gratuities amounting to Rs. 3,139 were awarded to 51 persons during the year.

5. In the Army, 101 new Military pensions were sanctioned and 43 ceased through death, the number of pensioners at the end of the year being 798 drawing an aggregate annual pension of Rs. 65,743. Gratuities amounting to Rs. 16,011 were paid to 72 men.

Military pensioners

6. The Public Works Audit Branch is in charge of an Assistant and exercises audit control over the Public Works, Baroda City Municipality, Baroda City Improvement Trust, and the State Furniture Workshop.

Public Works Audit Branch.

7. The Railway Audit Branch is placed under the charge of an Assistant designated Examiner of Accounts for State Railways. Its function is to audit the accounts of lines that are working as well as of those that are under construction. A small staff of this office is kept at Ajmere to audit receipts on open lines.

Railway Audit Branch.

8. The Inspection Branch inspects the accounts of all Departments except the Military, the Public Works and the Railway by actually taking stock of treasure and scrutinizing local accounts. The Assistant in charge of this Branch inspected 321 offices during the year.

Inspection Branch

9. The Local Boards Inspection Branch, supervised by two auditors, examined the accounts of District and Taluka Local Boards and also of the Vishistha Panchayats.

Local Boards Inspection Branch

10. The Branch for the Compilation of Accounts compiles the final accounts of the State from the daily sheets received from the Central Treasury at Baroda and from the monthly accounts received from the taluka and other Treasuries. This Branch also compiles the accounts of Tribute (Ghāsdana and

Compilation of Accounts Branch.

Jamabandi) due to His Highness' Government from the several tributaries under the Mahikantha, Rewa Kantha and Palanpur Agencies and from those in Kathiawar and received through the Residency.

The Central Treasury

11. The Central Treasury is in charge of a separate Assistant, *viz.*, the Huzur Treasury Officer. The transactions here during the year amounted to nearly Rs. 4,53,77,445 on both sides of the accounts. The transactions with the Bank of Bombay and six other leading Banks in Bombay amounted to Rs. 92,66,858 in remittances and Rs. 90 51,127 in withdrawals.

Stamp Branch

12. The Huzur Treasury Officer is also in charge of the Stamp Branch. The revenue realised from the sale of stamps was Rs. 7,18,183 against Rs. 6,08,892 in the preceding year.

Budget.

13. The Accountant-General receives from the different Departments the statements of estimated receipts and expenditure for the coming year by the end of January. They are then scrutinized and the Budget is submitted to Government by the middle of April so as to leave about 12 to 14 weeks for consideration. It is the duty of the Accountant-General to watch the increase or decrease in the revenue and expenditure, to see that no wasteful expenditure is incurred and to advise Government generally on all questions directly or indirectly affecting the finances of the State.

B.—Receipts and Disbursements.

Total Receipts and Disbursements.

14. The total receipts and disbursements during the year as compared with those of the previous year are given in the following statements :—

Receipts.

No	Description of Items	1915–16	1916–17	Increase	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1	Land Revenue	96,32,167	1,20,24,543	23,92,376	
2	Miscellaneous and Taxes	1,91,629	2,08,476	16,847	
3	Forests	1,92,026	2,47,967	55,941	
4	Abkari	22,13 893	22 89,660	75,967	
5	Customs	94,772	1,31,281	36,509	
6	Stamps	6,08,892	7,18,183	1,09,291	
7	Registration	1,35,664	1,58,534	22,870	.
8	Tribute and fixed Jamabandi received through the Residency .	14,14,911	5,82,164		8,32,747
9	Tribute and fixed Jamabandi received direct	10 649	9,829		820
10	Interest . ..	9,10,768	9,31,509	20,741	.
11	Village Boards Revenue	11,154	16,287	5,133	
12	Opium	16,73,447	5,34,503	..	11,38,944
13	Railways	9,06,167	10,38,341	1 32,174	
14	Irrigation	8,314	34,092	25,778	
15	Palace 18/A .		...		
16	Judicial Fees and Fines	1,16,577	1,18.232	1,655	
17	Jail	23,720	26,814	3,094	.
18	Education	1,32,620	1,34,927	2,307	
19	Municipalities	240	12		228
20	Public Works	2,70,568	4,89,721	2,19,153	
21	Miscellaneous (including Ferries, Police, General Administration, &c) .	5,42,362	5,16 004		26,358
	Total .	1,90,90,540	2,02,11,079	31,[illegible]9,636	19,99,097

Disbursements.

No	Description of Items.	1915-16.	1916-17	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5 .	6
		Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
1	Land Revenue	21,64,949	20,73,011	.	91,938
2	Other Revenue Branches	1,73,363	1,96,586	23,223	..
3	Forests	78,537	84,802	6,265	.
4	Stamps	43,348	38,949	.	4,399
5	Registration	37,899	39,817	1,918	.
6	Tribute, etc, received through the Residency .	22	.	.	22
7	Tribute, etc, received direct		292	292	..
8	Opium	60,322	1,16,386	56,064	.
9	Railways				.
10	Palace	20,14,526	20,14,357		169
11	Huzur Raj Karbhar—				
	(*a*) Tour Expenses	411	3,727	3,316	
	(*b*) Huzur Kutcheries	5,94,423	6,19,785	25,362	..
12	Judicial .	4,09,754	4,04,806		4,948
13	Police	8 80,606	8,64,425		16,181
14	Jail	56,846	67,545	10,699	.
15	Education	20,89,396	20,43,086		46,310
16	Medical	2,93,193	3,09,359	16,166	.
17	Printing Press	1,09,647	81,720	.	27,927
18	Local Boards, etc, 25, A	1,14,322	4,70,938	3,56,616	..
19	Municipalities	4 000	3,871		129
20	Public Works	26,68,578	26,14,059	.	54,519
21	Army .	27,10,156	19,14,199		7,95,957
22	Devasthan-Dharmadava	2,45,741	2,42,230		3,511
23	Assamdars Nemnookdars	5,31,645	5,33,061	1,416	.
24	Pensioners	2,08,569	2,24,755	16,186	.
25	Marriages in the Royal Family	111	275	164	.
26	Extraordinary including Famine, etc .	20,503	79,795	59,292	.
27	Miscellaneous including Interest, Ferries, Irrigation, etc	12,40,622	4,86,899		7,53,723
	Total	1,67,51,489	1,55,28,735	5,76,979	17,99,733

Increase under Receipts

15. The main heads which shewed appreciable increase under receipts are—

Land Revenue.—Rs. 23,92,376 due to the high upset prices realised at the auction sales of land and also to the realisation of arrears of land revenue which was suspended in the preceding year in Kadi and Amreli Districts owing to partial famine.

Forests.—Rs. 55,941 due to the increase in the sale of forest produce.

Abkari.—Rs 75,967 due to increase in rates of duty and other ordinary causes.

Customs.—Rs. 36,509 due to larger collections under the revised tariff.

Stamps.—Rs. 1,09,291 due to the larger demand for stamps.

Registration—Rs. 22,870 due to the realisation of a larger amount of fees.

Interest.—Rs. 20,741 due to the increased investment of our funds.

Railways.—Rs 1,32,174 due to the opening of new lines and general development in traffic.

Irrigation.—Rs. 25,778 due to the realisation of past arrears by the Revenue Department and their transfer to the P. W. Department by adjustments.

Public Works.—Rs. 2,19,153 due to the adjustment of two items—

(1) of the expenses recovered on account of the construction of the Purna River Bridge, and

(2) of the recovery of the amount spent on famine works in past years in the Amreli District.

Decrease under Receipts.

16. The heads which shewed appreciable decrease under receipts are—

Tribute (Ghasdana) and fixed Jamabandi received through the Residency, Rs. 8.32.747.—This decrease is only apparent as compared with last year's huge figure which was arrived at after the adjustment of past accounts.

Opium.—Rs. 11,38,944, the decrease was due to the sale of a smaller number of our opium chests in China.

Miscellaneous.—Rs. 26,358 due to ordinary causes.

Increase under disbursements

17. The main heads which shewed appreciable increase under disbursements are the following:—

Other Revenue Branches.—Rs. 23,223 due to the general increase under establishment.

Opium.—Rs. 56,064 due to the increased expenditure on account of the purchase of opium juice.

Huzur Raj Karbhar.—Rs. 25,362 due to the creation of the posts of Naib Dewan for revenue and allied branches and of the Dharmadhyaksha and to the expenses incurred in boundary dispute cases and Solicitors' charges in the Okhamandal Reef Case.

Medical.—Rs. 16,166 due to the increased expenditure on account of the purchase of medicines, &c.

Local Boards.—Rs. 3,56,616 due to the payment of Rs. 2,40,000 to the City Improvement Trust and to the increase in the grant made to the Baroda City Municipality.

Pensioners.—Rs. 16,186 due to increase in the number of pensioners.

Extraordinary including Famine, &c.—Rs. 59,292 due to the adjustment of expenditure incurred on account of famine in the Amreli District during the years 1900-1901 and 1901-1902.

Decrease under disbursements

18. The items showing appreciable decrease under disbursements were—

Land Revenue.—Rs. 91,938 partly due to the abolition of the posts of village havaldars and partly to other ordinary causes.

Education.—Rs. 46,310 mainly due to the reduction in establishments brought about by the Education Commission.

Printing Press.—Rs. 27,927 due to the fact that a number of bills could not be checked in time to enable their payment before the close of the year.

Public Works.—Rs. 54,419 due to less expenditure being incurred on account of the Miscellaneous Public Improvements (Original Works).

Army.—Rs. 7,95,957, this decrease is only apparent as compared with last year as it was due to the fact that on receipt of the Kathiawar Tribute Accounts, the adjustment of a large item on account of Police subsidy for two years was made last year.

Miscellaneous.—Rs. 7,53,723 due to the fact that loans to the extent of about two lakhs were written off and to other ordinary causes.

C.—Financial Position.

Financial condition of the State.

19. The following table shows the financial condition of the State at the close of the year as compared with that of the previous year:—

Statement showing Assets and Liabilities of the State.

Year	Assets			Liabilities.	Net assets exclusive of opium and opium juice.
	Cash Balances	Investments including amounts spent on Railways and reproductive Public Works	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1915–16	46,79,023	5,45,93,470	5,92,72,493	42,55,864	5,50,16,629
1916–17	58,33,627	5,77,92,589	6,36,26,216	39,26,982	5,96,99,234

Expenditure on Railways and Reproductive Works.

20. In this connection it may be noted that the State has up till now invested about two crores and forty-eight lakhs in Railways and the receipts under this head amounted to Rs. 10,38,341. But the 45 lakhs spent on Reproductive Public Works like Irrigation brought unfortunately a poor return of only about Rs. 34,000.

Financial strength of the State.

21. The statement given above will indicate that the financial position of the Raj was stronger this year by about 47 lakhs as compared with that of the last year. The reserve of the State in the form of liquid assets has been augmented by 34 lakhs.

D.—General.

Additional Work.

22. In addition to the regular work of the Department, the Accountant-General had to work in the State Legislative Council as a nominated member.

Out-turn of the work done.

23. *The following* is the statement showing the out-turn of the work done by the Accounts Department during the year under Report :—

Name of Branch	Matters disposed of	Vouchers examined during the year	Sums recovered in audit inspection		
2	2	3	4		
			Rs	a	p.
Main Branch (including Civil Post Audit Branch)	136,874	100,511	3,713	11	4
Military Branch .	2 912	5,865	710	12	0
Public Works (Account Branch)	6,235	29,368	3,525	8	8
Railway Branch .	6,415	5,204	2,440	0	0
Inspection Branch	3,054		7,674	3	1
Local Boards Inspection Branch .	1,318	6 607	3,657	13	1
Total .	156,808	147,555	21,722	0	2

CHAPTER IV.

REVENUE AND SETTLEMENT.

A.—Land Revenue Proper.

(a) ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

Personnel

1. There was no change in the constitution of the Department. The post of the Sar Suba was held by Mr. G. R. Nimbalkar, B A, throughout the year except for 21 days, i.e. from 15th May to 5th June 1917, when Rao Bahadur G. H. Desai was in charge of the post, while that of the Naib Sar Suba by Mr. Chhotalal Baberbhai Patel, B.A., throughout the year except for about two months, i e., from 4th September 1916 to 8th November 1916, when Mr. Jamnadas Gangaram Mehta, B A., acted for him.

Touring done by the Sar Suba

2. The Sar Suba travelled for 114 days and visited 4 Mahals and 63 villages. He minutely examined the offices of 4 Mahals, 1 Vibhag and inspected the Dattars of 2 Talaties, 2 Mahal Panchayats, 3 Municipalities and 3 Vishishta Panchayats.

Territorial Divisions

3. The territorial divisions and sub-divisions remained the same as in the preceding year except that the Peta Mahal of Vankal was amalgamated with the Velachha Mahal on the 1st of August 1916 under the name of Mangrol Mahal.

Subas and their touring

4. Mr. Maneklal Sakarlal Desai, M.A., held charge of the Baroda District as Suba for nearly 9 months of the year, when he was succeeded by Rao Bahadur R. N. Joglekar, a retired

British Revenue Officer. The Kadi District continued under Shrimant Sampatrao Gaekwad except for two months of his leave of absence, when Mr. C. B. Patel, B.A., acted as Suba. Messrs. Ramlal H. Desai, B.A , LL B., and N. K. Aloni, B.A., continued to be at the head of Naosari and Amreli Districts, respectively, during the whole year.

The touring done by all the Subas was much more than required under the rules.

(b) General Condition.

Rainfall

5. The following table gives the distribution of rainfall during the year compared with that of the preceding year and the decennial average :—

Name of the District	Decennial average	Rainfall in 1915-16	Rainfall in 1916-17
Baroda	39 77	24 17	39 84
Kadi	26 64	11 23	25 30
Naosari	50 20	33 42	54 64
Amreli	22 10	12 20	25 30

The rainfall was very satisfactory being nearly equal to the average of the last ten years and was consequently favourable to crops throughout the State.

Yield of crops.

6. The following is a comparative statement of the yield of principal crops in annas :-

Name of the District.	Rice		Bajri		Juvar.		Cotton	
	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17
Baroda	5·50	10	9 50	8	10	9	10	9
Kadi	.		5 25	11 50	4 75	8 50	2 50	7 50
Naosari	8	10	11	9	13	8	11	12
Amreli	10	10	5	12	5	10	3	10

From this table it is apparent that on the whole the yield of crops was more bountiful than that in the preceding year.

Prices of food-stuffs.

7. The following table gives the prices of food-stuffs prevailing during the year under report as compared with those in the preceding year. Number of lbs. sold for a Rupee :—

Name of the District	Rice		Bajri		Juvar		Pulse		Wheat.	
	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17
Baroda	12	12	18	20	23½	25	16½	21	13½	15
Kadi	9	13	18	25	23	30	10	17	17	18
Naosari	18	14	18	18	26	24	15	15	14	14
Amreli	12	13	17	22	20	31	18	19	17	19

On the whole the prices of most of the food stuffs were lower than in the preceding year.

(c) Land Revenue.

Number of Government and alienated villages.

8 The number of Government and alienated villages was as under :--

Name of the District	Government villages	Alienated villages	Total
Baroda	781½	65	846½
Kadi	1,065½	85½	1,151
Navsari	944	39	983
Amreli	271	25	296
Total	3,062	214½	3,276½

There was a decrease of one village on the whole, due to the amalgamation of the deserted village of Khamdhole with Runi in the Pattan Mahal. The resumption by Government of the alienated villages of Dethan, Kajapur and half of Lunadra

account for the increase in the number of Government villages and a corresponding decrease in the alienated villages of the Baroda District.

Area of land in each district

9. The area of land in the four districts was as follows :—

Name of the District	Area of land in Bighas	
	1915-16	1916-17.
Baroda	20,92,141	20,90,718
Kadi	32,92,375	32,91,023
Naosari	16,13,031	16,13,015
Amreli	14,70,132	14,72,524
Total .	84,67,679	84,67,280

The decrease in the first three districts was due to the Revision Survey and Settlement operations, while the increase in the Amreli district to the settlement of alienated villages in the Kodinar Mahal

Land relinquished and that brought under cultivation

10. The following table gives in Bighas the area of land relinquished and that brought under cultivation during the year as compared with that of the preceding year : -

Name of the District.	1915–16		1916–1917.	
	Land relinquished	Land brought under cultivation	Land relinquished.	Land brought under cultivation.
Baroda ..	397	5,254	100	5,952
Kadi	8,946	40,217	3,552	35,319
Naosari .	276	1,023	47	2,838
Amreli	17,099	13,641	7,476	9,989
Total .	26,718	60,135	11,175	54,098

The net result was that more land remained under cultivation during the year than in the year preceding, when relinquishments were much larger. Owing to the abnormal high prices of cotton and other agricultural products, there was a general tendency of the people to take up new land under cultivation.

Transfer of land

11. Statistics of transfer of land are tabulated below :-

How transferred	1915-16.		1916-17.	
	Persons	Bighas	Persons	Bighas
Inheritance	7,630	1,18,384	7 604	1,17,972
Partition	310	1,356	46	388
Gift and exchange	131	1,349	93	1,063
Mortgage	302	1 750	247	1,339
Redemption ..	43	260	27	121
Sale	12,996	1,06,126	10,941	84,448
Other causes	1,304	15,497	935	8,458
Total .	22,715	2,44 722	19,893	2,13,789

Mortgage and sale are the most important transactions which can enable us to form some idea of the prosperity or adversity of the rayats. It is satisfactory to note that the number of these transactions during the year was less than in the preceding year.

Demand and collection

12 The following table gives the demand and realization of land revenue due to Government as compared with the preceding year :-

Name of District	1915-16.		Percentage	1916-17.		Percentage
	Demand	Collection		Demand	Collection	
	Rs	Rs		Rs.	Rs	
Baroda	42,99,080	42,56,073	99 00	43,23,545	42,80,545	99 01
Kadi	34,00,615	26,60,248	77 80	36,15,498	35,62,409	98 53
Naosari	19,15,412	19,04,408	99 42	19,00,306	18,91,572	99 54
Amreli	9,81,358	7,32,504	74 64	9,61,505	9,39,980	97 76
Huzur Treasury	30,032	30,032	100 00	29,903	29,903	100 00
Total	1,06,26,497	95,83,265	90 17	1,08,30,757	1,07,04,409	98·97

These highly satisfactory figures were due to good and well distributed rain.

Arrears

13 The outstanding arrears at the close of the year as compared with that in the preceding year were--

Name of the District.	At the close of 1915-16	At the close of 1916-17
	Rs	Rs
Baroda	1,71,158	1,30,790
Kadi	8,38,655	14,37,196
Naosari	11,336	5,677
Amreli	6,13,850	1,79,601
Total	16,34,999	17,53,264

In all the districts except Kadi, the amount of arrears has decreased, while in Kadi it has greatly increased owing to the damage caused to the Kharif crops by the excessive rain at the close of the season.

Coercive measures

14. The following comparative statement gives the number of cases in which coercive measures were adopted during the year :—

Measures	1915-16	1916-17.
Fines	321	142
Sales of land	170	527
Sales of immoveable property other than land	246	241
Sales of moveable property	483	172
Arrests	127	166
Attachments of "Sarkari" land	2,557	1,818
Attachments of Barkhali land	23	23
Resumptions and forfeitures	127	133
Total	4,054	3,222

Excepting sales of land, arrests, and resumptions and forfeitures, resort to coercive measures was considerably on the decrease. The increase in the number of arrests and resumptions and forfeitures was so trifling as to call for no special remarks. The number of cases in which lands had to be sold has greatly increased, notably in the Kadi and Amreli Districts. This was due to the recalcitrancy of Banias and other money lenders who were in possession of lands mortgaged to them and avoided the payment of revenue in respect of those lands. The issue of notices can hardly come under the head of coercive measures; during the year under review, 41,712 notices were issued as against 53,451 in the preceding year

(d) Local Cess

Demand and collection.

15. The following table gives the demand and collection of local cess during the year under report as compared with the preceding year:—

Name of the District	1915–16		Percentage	1916–17		Percentage.
	Demand	Collection		Demand	Collection	
	Rs	Rs		Rs	Rs	
Baroda	3,06,389	3,05,606	99 77	3,08,246	3,05,297	99 04
Kadi	1,99,451	1,91,301	96 00	2,21,115	2,18,458	98 80
Naosari	1,39,005	1,37,155	98 66	1,36,468	1,35,278	99·12
Amreli	75,288	69,705	92 58	82,557	78,829	95·48
Total	7,20,113	7,03,767	96 75	7,48,386	7,37,862	98·11

Excepting Naosari which showed slight decrease, there was on the whole an increase both in demand and collection of the other districts.

(e) INCOME TAX.

Demand and collection

16. The following table shows the demand and realization of Income Tax during the year as compared with the year preceding :—

Name of the District	1915–16.		Percentage	1916–17		Percentage
	Demand	Collection		Demand	Collection	
	Rs	Rs		Rs	Rs	
Baroda	85,802	74,583	86 92	94,329	88,288	93 60
Kadi .. .	33,716	33,495	99 34	35,150	34,943	99 41
Naosari	17,867	17,709	99 11	14,804	14,711	99 37
Amreli .	10,284	9,499	92 37	8,633	8,123	95 34
Total	1,47,669	1,35 286	94 43	1,52,916	1,46,173	96 93

There was an increase both in demand and collection in the districts of Baroda and Kadi while the other two districts returned a small decrease

B.—Attached Estates.

Number of estates under attachment with causes thereof

17. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment at the beginning and close of the year and the causes which led to the attachment :—

CAUSES	Estates under attachment at the beginning of the year	Estates under attachment at the close of the year
Under Guardian and Wards Act	84	87
Mortgaged to Government for loans	43	91
Attached for arrears of revenue ..	62	26
Attached owing to disputes among holders	17	20
Attached owing to mismanagement of temples	35	37
Attached pending mutation of names	32	24
Attached for protection of Government shares	6	4
Attached as properties of temples under Government management .. .	11	11
Attached for other reasons	61	44
Total ..	351	344

The number of estates newly attached and released from attachment was 52 and 59 respectively. The main increase was in the number of estates newly brought under attachment on account of their being mortgaged to Government for loans.

Demand and collection of attached estates.

18. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment, their annual demand, collection and arrears for the year as compared with those in the preceding year :—

Year	Number of Estates	Demand			Collection			Arrears			Over collection
		Past	Current	Total	Past	Current	Total	Past.	Current	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1915–16	361	4,38,893	4,74,901	9,13,794	39,293	3,93,202	4,32,495	4,01,281	83,573	4,84,854	3,768
1916–17	344	4,79 196	4,77,712	9,56,908	77,788	4,32,961	5,10,749	4,03,461	44,404	4,47,865	3,731

From this it will be seen that the realization of the past and current demands were more satisfactory than in the preceding year.

Number of estates and period of attachment

19. The following table shows the number of years for which the several estates have continued under attachment :—

Under one year	The number of estates under attachment for more than							Total.
	One year.	Two years	Three years	Four years	Five years.	Ten years.	Fifteen years	
47	50	25	22	29	77	50	44	344

C.—Compensation.

Organisation of work.

20. The Revenue Naib Subas in the Kadi, Navsari and Amreli districts and the officers specially appointed for the work in the Baroda District continued to do compensation

work as in the preceding year. Owing to pressure of work in the Baroda district, another special officer was sanctioned for one year on 29th February 1916 to look after the old cases of the Dabhoi and Karjan Mahals. Railway compensation work of the Baroda and Kadi districts was done by the special officer appointed for the purpose as in the preceding year.

The subjoined statement will furnish information regarding compensation work done during the last two years :—

Name of the district	Number of cases.	Area of land compensated for		Kothali Santh	Amount of award.	Area of land given in exchange.		Amount awarded for property other than land.
		Bighas.	Square Feet.			Bighas.	Square Feet.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				Rs	Rs.			Rs.
Baroda	1,701	1,170	74,257	27	58,933	69		17,989
Kadi	222	502	480		3,938	2		614
Naosari	203	134	28 779		8,944			1,472
Amreli	360	587	2,79,204		3,925	1	24,46 672	7,449
Total	2,486	2,393	3,82,720	27	75,740	72	24,46,672	27,524
Total for 1915-16	1,891	3,266	2,19,142	.	57,696	308	4,096	37,278

D.—Boundaries.

Personnel

21. Mr. Manirai T. Joshipura, B.A., LL.B., continued to be in charge of the Boundary Branch till the 18th of February 1917, when Mr. Baburao Raoji Chavan succeeded him and held charge of the office for the rest of the year. The strength of the permanent establishment was increased by the appointment of a Probationer in the office. Mr. L. D. Korde, B.A., continued to work as Simada Kamdar.

Work done.

22. The following statement will show the important work done by the office as compared with that of the previous year :—

Description of the Work	1915-16.	1916-17.
Boundaries verified	45	65
,, settled	2	1
,, surveyed	74	70
Disputes settled with British Districts ..	23	44
Cases conducted in the Boundary Commissioner's Court	4	8
Foreign boundaries examined .. .	62	189
Taluka records examined	3	8
Copies of maps supplied to other offices .	186	135
Copies of field-books supplied to other offices	186	70

The demarcation of the Rampura-Sultanpura and the Aghat-na-muwada (Charania)-Betawada boundaries was

effected by the Boundary Commissioner during the year under report.

The Resident as arbitrator gave his award in the case of the 3 riparian boundaries, *viz.*:—

(1) the Raisan-Shahapur,

(2) the Raisan-Pirozpur, and

(3) the Basan-Indroda boundaries.

His award declaring the mid-stream line as the boundary is in accordance with the contention advanced by His Highness' Government.

Three of the Jaspur cases were conducted in Appeal before the Commissioner, N. D., who decided in favour of our Government in all the three disputes.

Considerable progress was made during the year in the work with the Junagad State regarding the preparation of the Gir map on a large scale.

The verification work with other Indian States, British districts and Political Agencies continued to be satisfactory.

E. —Railway Demarcation.

Demarcation officer

23. The post of the Railway Demarcation officer was held by Mr. Dorab T. Pavri, L.C.E., throughout the year.

Work done

24. The recommendations of Colonel Rose approved of by both the parties and by the Railway Board were not hitherto acted upon at various places with the result that there were complaints from some people as regards closing of roads, water-courses, etc., Hence the Rajputana-Malwa line was required to be remeasured and field-books newly prepared and signed by both the parties.

After finishing the demarcation work on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, the Mehsana-Kheralu-Taranga line was taken up and the work on it was completed. During the year the whole length of about 56 miles of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway and 29 miles of the Mehsana-Kheralu Railway were demarcated.

Land relinquished and proposed to be relinquished

25. The following table will show the amount of land relinquished during the year under report compared with that in the preceding two years, and also the amount of land agreed and proposed to be relinquished :—

Year.	Land relinquished in Bighas	Land agreed to be relinquished in Bighas	Land proposed to be given up.
1914–15	360		
1915–16	753		
1916–17	247	388	226

F.—Excise.

Personnel.

26. The Department of Customs, Salt, Opium and Abkári was under the control of the Excise Commissioner, Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., during the whole of the year under report.

Sources of revenue

27. The Excise revenue was derived from manufacture and sale of country liquor and from licenses for the sale of foreign liquor, toddy and intoxicating drugs.

System of farming.

28. The system in force for the manufacture and supply of country spirit is what is known as the "Contract Distilling and Separate Shop System" throughout the State, except

in the Amreli district, where the monopoly system still prevails.

29. The farms for the manufacture of country liquor continued with Messrs. Alembic Chemical Works Company, Limited, for the Baroda and Kadi districts and Messrs. Gyara & Co. for the Naosari district The farm for the manufacture and sale of country liquor in the Amreli district continued with Mr. Dorabji Naoroji of Kodinar with a minimum guarantee of Rs. 14,601.

Distilling contracts

30. The following were some of the important changes made during the year in the Excise System in force in the Baroda, Kadi, Naosari and Amreli districts with effect from 1st April 1917 :—

Important changes

(1) Assimilation of rates of duty and selling prices in shops bordering on the Baroda-Mahikantha Frontier.

(2) Assimilation of rates of duty and selling prices in the isolated shops of Variav in Kamrej Taluka with the higher rates in the surrounding British territory of Surat and ten miles round.

(3) Reduction in the rates of duty and selling prices in the isolated shops of Jiav and Gabheni in the Palsana Taluka in view to equalization of rates obtaining in the surrounding British territory.

(4) Removal of restriction against possession of foreign liquor manufactured and bottled in the country of origin.

(5) Exemption of certain medicinal preparations containing Cocaine from the operation of the Abkári Act.

Details of Excise Revenue

31. The following is the comparative statement of Excise Revenue for the year under report and the preceding year :—

Item	1915-16.	1916-17
1	2	3
Manufacture and sale of country liquor . .	Rs. 17,59,446	Rs. 19,76,578
Duty and license fees for sale of foreign liquor (including rectified and denatured spirits) .	4,803	20,353
Sale of Toddy .	2,28,198	2,29,807
Sale of intoxicating drugs including poisons	31,317	36,605
Miscellaneous	12,095	5,737
Total	20,35,859	22,69,080

There was an increase of Rs. 2,33,221 which was due partly to the increased rates of duty, and to the introduction of the system of licensing shops on the fixed-fee system in 1916, the results of which began to be conspicuous during the last eight months of the year under report, and partly to a propitious marriage season. The increase was general under almost all the heads. The increase under foreign liquor is accounted for by the increased sale of the Alembic "foreign liquor," excised at rates according to British tariff, owing to the effects of the Great War on foreign imports.

32. The following statement gives the demand, collection and arrears of Excise Revenue for the year under report :—

Demand and collection

District.	Demand.	Extra duty.	Collection.	Arrears
	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Baroda	6,73,109	34,560	7,15,059	2,016
Kadi ..	2,15,662	..	2,21,282	..
Naosari	13,23,210	1,514	13,16,123	7,886
Amreli	16,616		16,616	.
Total	22,28,597	36,074	22,69,080	9,902

33. The collections during the year were greater than last year by Rs. 1,14,493 and were attributable partly to the increase in the revenue itself as indicated above and partly to the recovery of past arrears, which have been greatly reduced.

Reasons for the increase in collections

34. The following comparative statement gives the number of liquor and toddy shops in the four districts :—

Number of shops

Districts.	Liquor shops		Toddy shops		Foreign liquor shops.		Total.	
	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17
Baroda ..	207	210	7	7	10	9	224	226
Kadi .	237	208			5	3	242	211
Naosari	341	342	362	362	8	8	711	712
Amreli	48	48	2	1	.	.	50	49
Total	833	808	371	370	23	20	1,227	1,198

On the whole there was a decrease of 29 shops in the Raj. The variations in the figures of the last year were due to mistake in the last year's sanctioned number, which has now been rectified. The actual number of shops which remained open during the year was 1,086 as against 1,115 in the year preceding.

Offences

35. The following statement shows the number of offences detected and the number of convictions and acquittals :—

District	Offences	Results	
		Convicted	Acquitted.
Baroda . .	66	53	13
Kadi .	20	16	4
Naosari	98	84	14
Amreli	. .		
Total	184	153	31
1915-16 ..	256	230	26

The number of offences detected and convicted showed a decrease as compared with that in the preceding year. The decrease was greater in the Baroda and Naosari districts and is accounted for by the swelling in the number of offences in the year preceding owing to the introduction of the Mahuda Act in 1916 in some of the talukas of the State and the ignorance of the fact on the part of the people. The percentage of convictions to cases tried throughout Baroda, Kadi and Naosari districts was 83 as against 90 in the preceding year.

G.—Opium.

Sources of Opium Revenue.

36. The sources of Opium Revenue are—

(*a*) Profits on opium issued to farmers and licensed vendors for local consumption.

(*b*) Fees for licenses for retail sale and miscellaneous receipts.

State monopoly of manufacturing opium.

37. The manufacture of opium is a State monopoly on the Bengal system. During the year, two important changes were made in the opium arrangements in force: (1) the issue rate from the Depôts was raised from Rs. 16 per seer to Rs. 17-8-0; (2) certain medicinal preparations containing opium were exempted from the operation of the Opium Act.

Poppy cultivation

38 During the year, poppy was cultivated only in Sidhpur and Kheralu Talukas of the Kadi district as the export of opium to China has come to a stand-still. Thus the poppy cultivation has largely been curtailed as stated in last year's report.

Maximum rate for the purchase of opium juice

39. Licensed cultivators are bound to sell all juice to the State at the rate fixed previous to issuing the licenses. The maximum rate for the best juice was fixed at Rs. 4 per seer of 40 tolas, which was the same as last year.

Opium sent to depôts

40. The following are the figures showing the quantity of opium sent to the local depôts and sold in China and to the British Government:—

Year	Opium sent to local depôts for consumption in the State in lbs.	Opium sold to British Government in lbs.	Opium sold in China in lbs.
1915-16	23,940		12,381
1916-17	19,810	...	544

As stated in last year's report, the quantity sent to depôts was dependent on the expected consumption in the State, as also on the balance in the depôts at the time of requisition.

Sale of opium in the State.

41. The financial results of the sale of opium within the State are as below :—

Year	Cost of production.	Amount realized from licensed vendors	Profit to the State
	Rs	Rs	Rs.
1915–16	1,49,925	3,68,606	2,18,681
1916–17	1,49,185	4,05,808	2,56,623

The increase of Rs. 37,942 in the Opium Revenue is accounted for by the increased issue-rates of opium. It is satisfactory, however, to note that the consumption was gradually decreasing as the people are slowly giving up the opium habit. During the year under report no less than 2,000 lbs. have decreased as compared with the consumption in the year preceding.

Sale of opium in China

42. The following table will show the results of the sale of opium in China :—

Year	Cost price including Railway freight, etc	Transit duty.	Total cost.	Sale proceeds.	Profit to the State.
	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.
1915–16	86,251	54,600	1,40,851	12,59,224	11,18,373
1916–17	6,478	2,400	8,078	79,223	71,145

The above figures show the income from the sale of opium chests shipped to China in 1911-12. The China market is now closed and consequently no more opium chests were sent.

H.—Customs and Port Dues.

Revenue of Customs and Port dues.

43. The following statement gives the revenue obtained from :—

(*a*) Customs duties at Chandod and Excise duty on cotton goods in the Baroda district;

(*b*) The Sea Customs and Port dues as well as Land Customs at the inland "Nakas" in the Amreli district, and

(*c*) Armar Cess, *i.e.*, dues on wharfage in the Naosari district, for the two years :—

District.	1915-16	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	45,725	56,124
Kadi	.	.
Naosari	6,433	5,333
Amreli	44,405	72,387
Total	96,563	1,33,844

The increase of Rs. 37,281 was partly due to Excise duty on cotton goods realized from Baroda Mills and partly to the export duty imposed on ghee and other articles of foreign territory re-exported from our ports under the revised tariff.

The Port dues remained the same as in the previous year. There was a decrease of about Rs. 1,340 in the revenue from

Port dues owing to a fewer number of country crafts arriving at the ports.

44. The following were among the important changes introduced during the year under report :--

Important changes

(1) Revision of Land Customs in the Kodinar and Okhamandal Talukas of the Amreli District.

(2) Mutual exemption from Port dues on vessels owned by or chartered for the British Government for Government purposes.

I.—Salt.

45. Salt arrangements for Baroda, Kadi and Naosari districts remained the same as in the previous year. And in 2 Talukas of Amreli district contracts were given for collecting salt from salt-beds: the one for Kodinar Taluka was given in Samvat 1970 for three years which continued during the year under report; while that in Okhamandal Taluka was given in Samvat 1969 for ten years.

Arrangements regarding Salt.

46. The amount realized from the manufacture of natural salt in the Okhamandal and Kodinar Talukas was, during the year under report, Rs. 800 against Rs. 747 in the previous year. Valuable salt resources in Okhamandal and Kodinar Talukas are being wasted owing to unnecessary prohibition on the export of salt to any outside port in India.

Revenue.

J.—Stamps.

47. The Accountant-General was in charge of the supply and sale of stamps, while the supervision over the arrangement and general working of the Stamp Act rested with the Joint Sar Suba.

Constitution

48. The revenue derived from the sale of stamps during the last two years is shown in the following table :—

Revenue.

Items	1915-16	1916-17.
	Rs	Rs.
Court-fee	3,00,121	3,42,608
Documentary	2,91,225	3,53,007
Special levies	6,688	5,555
Miscellaneous receipts ..	10,858	1,550
Total .	6.08,892	7,02,720

The increase in the receipt of revenue was due partly to a great increase in the number of documents executed and partly to a greater number of suits filed in the Civil Courts in the current year.

49. The following statement will show the expenditure incurred under the head of "Stamps":—

Expenditure

Years	Rs
1915-16 .	43,348
1916-17 .	38,949

50. The Personal Assistant to the Head of the Department inspected 17 Stamp Depôts, 8 Stamp-vendors' Daftars and 31 public offices in order to see that Stamp revenue was being properly safe-guarded.

Inspection

51. The Department referred 9 cases to the Varishta Court for decision during the year, while there were 12 cases pending decision by that Court at the close of the previous year. Of these 21 cases, 13 were decided by that Court, 7 being cases referred during the year, while the remaining 6 pending from the last year's file. Out of 13 cases decided, the Varishta Court agreed with the Department in 8 and differed in 5.

Cases referred to Varishta Court.

The number of cases pending decision by the Varishta Court at the close of the year was 8.

K.—Barkhali.

52. During the year Mr. G. R. Nimbalkar, B.A., continued in charge of this Branch as Sar Subha and Mr. R. K. Jadhav, B.A., LL.B., as his Assistant.

Personnel

53. The temporary establishment for arranging Barkhali records, finished the whole work of indexing and filing pertaining to the files of Inami, Vatan and Cash of all the four districts excepting the indexing of the files of disallowed cash allowances numbering about 3,500. Out of the 7,000 cash Giras (non-guaranteed) files of disallowed cases pertaining to the four districts, which were kept undone in the last year, the establishment did the indexing of 2,638 files of Baroda and 1,110 of Kadi District with inspection; and 995 files of Baroda and 535 of Kadi District are also indexed but not inspected. The indexing of some files of disallowed cases of cash Giras (non-guaranteed) pertaining to Baroda and Kadi Districts and the indexing of all the files of disallowed cash Giras cases pertaining to Amreli and Naosari Districts yet remains to be done.

Work done by the temporary record establishment.

54. Revision of Barkhali "Patraks

Revision of Barkhali Patraks.

of 157 villages were prepared during the year, as shown below, against 187 in the last year :—

Division.	Taluka.	Villages.
Baroda	Baroda ..	97
Kadi . . .	Pattan ..	60
	Total	157

Work done by the Special Mobadla Party

55. The Special Duty Kamdar Mr. Limaye did the execution work from the Central Office of the 44 villages of Kadi Taluka which was dealt with last year. After this execution work, the party took up inquiries of the Barkhali lands of the Kalol Taluka and finished 21 villages. The party has got a further extension of two years from 1st August 1917 to finish the work in the other talukas.

Inami villages

56. During the year, orders regarding 2 inami villages were passed by the Huzur and regarding 5 by the Council under the delegated powers of the Huzur; the department likewise disposed of 2 other cases with similarly delegated powers. Of the 9 village cases dealt with, 3 were totally and 1 partially resumed, while "Vadharo" was levied on 5. Rs. 675 were granted as maintenance allowance for life to the holders of villages totally resumed and a lump sum of Rs. 78-2-0 was given to the holder of the one partially resumed. Last year, 8 village cases were disposed of, of which 1 was totally and another partially resumed, while 6 were continued with settlement or "Vadharo".

57. In the Cash Branch, 111 claims were disposed of. The amount claimed was Rs. 83,175, out of which Rs. 77,738 were continued and Rs. 5,437 disallowed. Last year's figures were 167 claims and the amounts claimed and continued were respectively Rs. 78,780 and Rs. 43,073. Allowances of an annual value of Rs. 345 were purchased for Rs. 3,598, giving an average of 10 times on the amount purchased. Last year's figures were Rs. 233 and Rs. 1,866, respectively.

Cash work.

58. In the non-guaranteed Giras Branch, 5 claims came up for disposal. The amount claimed was Rs. 35, of which Rs. 33 were continued and Rs. 2 disallowed. One claim of the annual value of Rs. 33 was purchased for Rs. 530-8-0, giving an average of 16 times on the amount purchased. Last year's claims were 11 and the amounts claimed, disallowed and purchased were Rs. 596, 64 and 66-8-0, respectively. Besides, one "Taka" Hakk of the annual average value of Rs. 238-14-0 was purchased for Rs. 4,000 under the orders of the Council.

Non-guaranteed Giras work.

59. In the Vatan Branch, 14 claims in all were disposed of during the year. Of these, 5 were original, 7 succession and 2 miscellaneous. The amount claimed was Rs. 5,316, of which Rs. 4,256 were continued and Rs. 1,060 disallowed. Of the 12 Vatans dealt with, exclusive of the two miscellaneous claims, one was continued with five annas service, two with six annas service, one with ten annas service and three with full service, while five were discontinued. Last year's claims were 5 and the amounts continued and disallowed were Rs. 509 and 2,190, respectively.

Vatan work.

60. During the year 35 sanads in all, 4 of the first class and 31 of the second, were issued of which 2 were issued on application by the holders who had lost the original ones. Last year, 2 sanads were of the first class and 9 of the second class.

Sanad work.

Arrears and refunds.

61. During the year Rs. 1,079 were refunded; and no Barkhali arrears were written off. Last year's figures were Rs. 65 refunded and Rs. 27 written off.

Settlement of Barkhali land.

62 One original settlement order was passed during the year regarding Nakri land measuring about bighas 3 and assessed at Rs. 5, being transferred by sale. Owing to the non-adjudication of boundary disputes, Rs. 1,737 still remain to be settled. Excluding Petlad and "Kadeem" lands, 34 claims about Barkhali lands already settled were disposed of. In 20 of the claims, 1,319 bighas assessed at Rs. 983 were resumed and in 14, 152 bighas assessed at Rs. 260 were continued as Barkhali. In Petlad, out of 42 claims about Barkhali lands already settled, previous orders were upheld in 6 and upset in 36. 139 claims about Kadeem lands already settled came up for disposal, of which 41 were disposed of. Two revision Barkhali Patraks of inami villages were prepared during the year. This year's figures as compared with those of the last year stand as under :--

	Items	1915-16	1916-17.
1	Original settlement orders . .	5	1
2	Review claims about Barkhali lands ..	50	34
3	Review claims in Petlad	44	42
4	Review claims about Kadeem lands ..	122	139

Barkhali land succession and purchase of land.

63. During the year 69 Barkhali land succession cases came up for disposal against 177 in the last year. Rs. 510 were levied as fines for laches against Rs. 741 in the last year.

Bighas 34 assessed at Rs. 51 were purchased for Rs. 886, giving an average of 16 times calculated on the assessment amount lost to Government. Last year's figures were 356 bighas purchased for Rs. 4,853.

Loan work

64. Twelve loans amounting to Rs. 1,06,730 were advanced as shown under :—

Name	Amount.
	Rs.
1. Mr. Hakumatrai Harrai, Desai of Gandevi and members of the family . .	13,000
2. Mr. Kashinath Vireshvar Chhatre	4,750
3. Shrimant Hanmantrao Sadashivrao Gaekwad	6,000
4 Mr. Bapumia Balamia Mane	1,000
5. Shrimant Himat Bahadur Anandrao Gaekwad	5,550
6. Mir Sadruddin Nawab Saheb	3,784
7. Shrimant Anandrao Ganpatrao Gaekwad .	12,000
8. Mr Anant Narayan Datar	20,000
9. Shrimant Yashavantrao Madhavrao Raje Pandhare	25,000
10. Mr Govind Narayan Dalvi	5,000
11. Mr Chunilal Keshavlal	4,146
12 Girassia Shiwoobha Gumansing.. . .	6,500
Total .	1,06,730

Out of the 12 loans quoted above, Nos. 5 and 8 to 10 were advanced under the orders of the Huzur and Nos. 1, 3 and 7

under those of the Council. Nos. 2, 11 and 12 were advanced by the Department under its own powers. Nos. 4 and 6 were parts of old loans advanced by the Department. The balance due to Government from 42 loans in all at the end of July 1917 amounted to Rs. 6,38,842 and the recovery during the year was Rs. 95,012 The balance from 37 loans outstanding at the end of July 1916 was Rs. 5,82,935 and the recovery Rs. 94,180. Steps taken last year for the recovery of the loan advanced to the Thakore of Nana Aglod met with considerable success.

Appeals to the Huzur

65. Sixty-four appeals were preferred during the year against the decisions of the Department which, with the old balance of 19, numbered 83 in all. Of these, 27 were rejected, 7 upheld, 2 removed from the file, 4 modified and 9 remanded to the Department. Last year's figures were 13 rejected, 8 upheld, and 6 remanded to the Department.

Expenditure

66. The expenditure on the Barkhali Branch during the year was Rs. 21,497.

Work of Shilledari Branch

67. Some of the non-military work connected with the Shilledari Branch, which was transferred from the Military to the Barkhali Department in September 1915, was again entrusted to that Department from December 1916, leaving only mutation work with this Department. During the year, 4 mutation cases and 8 regarding maintenance for life were disposed of. Out of these, 2 orders in mutation cases were passed by the Huzur and 2 by the Department; in one maintenance case, orders were passed by the Huzur and in 4 by the Department and the remaining 3 were cases of Shilledars who elected to take pension in lieu of their nemnooks. The operation of the Mobadla Rules and the election by the Shilledars to have pension in lieu of their nemnooks resulted in a clear gain of about Rs. 377 per mensem.

68. The work done by the Subas, the Naib Subas, the Vahivatdars and the Mahalkaris was as under :—

Work done by the District Revenue Officers

Division.	Cash: No. of claims	Cash: Amount claimed	Cash: Amount continued	Watan: No. of claims	Watan: Amount claimed	Watan: Amount continued.	Cash Giras (Non-guaranteed): No of claims	Cash Giras (Non-guaranteed): Amount claimed.	Cash Giras (Non-guaranteed): Amount continued
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs	Rs		Rs	Rs		Rs	Rs
Baroda	17	616	491	7	75	75	14	164	164
Kadi*	16	585	274						
Navsari	10	516	346	1	277	277	4	344	333
Amreli							1	25	25
Total	43	1,717	1,111	8	352	352	19	533	522

* A Kothali Santh of Rs 4-8-0 was purchased for Rs 36 in Kadi Prant

Barkhali Land Succession.

Division	No of claims	Land purchased: Bighas	Land purchased: Assessment.	Lump sum given.
			Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	2,462	6	23	250
Kadi	682	38	39	534
Navsari	462	..	..	..
Amreli	57	34	51	886
Total	3,663	78	113	1,670

Settlement of Barkhali Land.

Division	Total No. of claims.			Rejected.			Resumed.		
	No. of claims.	Bighas.	Assessment.	No of claims.	Bighas.	Assessment.	No of claims.	Bighas.	Assessment.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Rs			Rs.			Rs.
Baroda	150	921	3,171	1	1	2	149	920	3,169
Kadi	6	46	79	3	41	61	3	5	18
Navsari	33	349	1,301	14	174	691	19	175	610
Amreli	4	1,143	1,338	2	1,132	1,321	2	11	17
Total	193	2,459	5,889	20	1,348	2,075	173	1,111	3,814

Offices inspected during the year

69. Barkhali settlement work is yet new to the lower offices. Hence frequent inspections were necessary to prevent mistakes. Five Taluka offices, *viz.*, those of Amreli, Siddhpur, Dabhoi, Waghodia and Dhari and the office of the Suba of Amreli were inspected. The inspection memo. of Dabhoi was printed and its copies were sent for the guidance of subordinate offices.

One principle laid down

70. Only one general principle worth mention here was laid down by the Huzur to the effect that if a grant be paid out of any kind of cesses (Veras), it should be discontinued on the abolition of those cesses at the time of succession.

L.—Survey and Settlement.

Personnel.

71. Mr. K. B. Jadhav was in charge of the Department throughout the year, except during the period of his leave when the Prat Sar Kamdar Mr. R. N. Ambegaokar acted as Survey and Settlement Commissioner. Mr. R. N. Ambegaokar worked as Prat Sar Kamdar and looked after the work of the Measuring and Inquiry

Parties throughout the year. During his absence on leave, the charge remained with Mr. Ambalal Nathabhai. Mr. K. V. Uplap was in charge of the Jamabandi Office.

Division of work.

72. Work of the Department may be divided under the following heads:—

(1) Survey operations.

(2) Classing operations.

(3) Jamabandi and Records.

(4) City Survey and Inquiry.

Survey Operations.

Measuring parties and their work

73. Since the beginning of the year, there were two Measuring Parties A and B; the two other parties C and D which were sent to the Giras Branch for the measuring of Wanta lands returned to this Department in March and June respectively on completion of their Wanta work. There was one more party for the City Survey.

"A" Party did the Barsat Tapasni work of the Talukas of Chanasma and Kalol and 3 villages of Petlad. It also did some miscellaneous work of Samlaya and Siswa and the work of correcting the printed maps of Dehgam and Mehsana Talukas. The revision measuring of 29 villages and the field to field measuring of one village of Petlad was another item of work done by the same party.

"B" Party did the Barsat Tapasni work of 11 villages of Vijapur and 2 of Petlad in addition to the Tumari work and Pacca map work of Gharwar Mapni of Petlad, Padra and Navsari Kasbas. It completed the revision work of 30 villages of Bhadran and 16 of Petlad and field to field measuring of one village.

"C" Party, after its return in March from the Giras office, was entrusted with correction work in the records and attended to 363 Tumars in March and April. It was then sent

to the Petlad Mahal to help the B Party. It did the revision measuring work of 11 villages of Petlad and measured "Bid" lands of Vejpur and Vachhesar villages in Savli dividing them into holdings of 25 Bighas each.

"D" Party, on its return in June from the Giras Office, was entrusted with the Barsat Tapasni work of Petlad and finished 7 villages.

It will thus be seen that revision work of 58 villages of Petlad and 30 of Bhadran was completed. There now remains the work of 17 villages.

Classing operations.

Classing parties and their work

74. "E" Party did the Barsat Tapasni work and prepared registers of 44 villages of Kadi, Kalol and Vijapur Talukas. It also did the revision classification of 93 villages of Chanasma and one of Vijapur and one of Petlad. Testing work that was in arrears was also completed.

"F" Party did Barsat Tapasni work of 88 villages of Kadi, Kalol and Vijapur Talukas throughout the year. In compliance with the orders of Government that the "Kasar" system should be abolished in Padra and that the area under each well should be charged, the inspection of the wells was undertaken with a view to ascertain the depth and quality of water in each and the "F" party was entrusted with the work. By the end of the year, 639 wells of 33 villages were inspected, out of which the Prat Sar Kamdar tested 68 wells and thereafter submitted proposals which were sanctioned.

The "Special Half" Party did the Barsat Tapasni work of 20 villages of the Kadi and Kalol Talukas and the correction (Durusti) work of 3,276 survey numbers in Savli, Baroda, Karjan and Waghodia Talukas. It split up 2,636 numbers in Baroda, Savli and Karjan Talukas, disposed of Tumars of Baroda and Naosari Districts and classified the villages of Muljapath and Suwagad of the Damnagar Taluka.

City Survey Work.

City survey work

75. The City Survey Party did house to house survey in the towns of Mehsana and Kadi. It also did the inspection work of Shree Becharaji buildings and commenced that of Kadi and Mehsana. The final map work of the towns of Baroda and Dabhoi, entrusted to this Party, was handed over to Inquiry Party No. 1 as the City Party was required at Mehsana and Kadi.

City Inquiry Work.

City Inquiry.

76. There were 5 parties for this work: Party No 1 did miscellaneous work at head-quarters and Parties Nos. II, III and IV worked at Vadnagar, Visnagar and Amreli, respectively, while Party No. V did the sanad and other work connected with the town of Pattan.

The total number of decisions passed by these parties during the year under report was 9,199 as against 6,662 in the previous year.

Amount of fees, fines, etc.

77. The following statement shows the amount of sanad fees, etc., recovered in different towns where the City Survey operations were in progress:—

Towns.	Sanads sent to Municipalities.	Fees recovered by the Municipalities till the end of July 1917	Fines.	Total
		Rs	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	114	1,060	258	1,318
Dabhoi	109	481	32	513
Petlad	26	68	1	69
Padra	4	20	.	20
Navsari	. .	.	.	..
Sidhpur	.		.	.
Pattan	1,837	33,217	537	33,754
Vadnagar	2,075	3,377	..	3,377
Visnagar	1,335	1,098	.	1,098
Amreli	1,895	4,164	.	4,164
Total	7,395	43,485	828	44,313

The inquiry officers resumed land to the extent of abo 171,685 square feet out of which 1,097 square feet were sold for Rs. 3,395-1-0.

City Appeals.

File and disposal of appeals.

78. The number of appeals pending at the end of the previous year was 92 and during the year 375 new appeals were received making in all 467. Of these, 380 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 87. In 160 of the disposals the orders passed by the Kamdars were confirmed, in 194 they were reversed and in 26 they were modified.

Jamabandi.

Charge of the office

79. The charge of the office was with Mr. K. V. Uplap, B.A., LL.B., throughout the year except for 52 days when he was on leave.

Work done

80. Necessary statements were prepared in English to accompany the settlement reports for the Talukas of Kadi and Kalol. During the year, the Revision Settlement Reports for the Talukas of Dehgam, Kheralu, Visnagar, Mehsana and the Petamahal of Attarsumba were sanctioned by Government. Darkhasts for applying settlement to certain Udafa (stray) villages (Dehathala and Odhva of Pattan, Mirjapur of Kheralu, Manjalpur of Baroda and Dethan of Karjan) were sanctioned. Settlement rates of 409 villages were declared during the year :—

137 villages of Pattan, 38 of Harij Peta, 91 of Dehgam, 38 of Attarsumba Peta, 92 of Kheralu and 13 Udafa (stray) villages, *viz.*, Virpur and Madapur of Padra, Manjalpur, Savad, Ruvad, Dolatpur, Fatepur, Shahapur, Rasulpur and Hansapur of Baroda, Deva Talpad of Petlad, Sunsar of Chanasma and Dethan of Karjan. The Jamabandi of Vajpur and Umarpada Mahals which was in arrears at the end of the

previous year was completed as also that of Naldhara (Mahuva), Ranapur (Karjan), Madapur and Virpur (Padra).

Training of Tajvijdars.

81. Ten Tajvijdars (Circle Inspectors) from Baroda, one from Kadi and one from Amreli were deputed to receive training in Durusti work.

Maps

82. During the year, 319 ticcas of 190 villages were prepared, as compared with 235 ticcas of 149 villages in the last year.

Expenditure.

83. The total expenditure was Rs. 2,42,760 as against Rs. 2,24,147 of the previous year. The increase of Rs. 18,613 was mostly due to the payment of bills for printing of maps and the special work of measuring " Bid " lands in Savli.

Miscellaneous.

84. As the Revision Operations have been mostly completed, parties B, C, and D were disbanded at the end of the year. Superannuated men were pensioned off and others provided with service in different Departments of Government.

M.—Giras.

Personnel

85. The Department was under the control of Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., during the year. Mr. V. A. Mehd held the post of Giras Assistant and also that of the Alienation Inquiry Officer, Baroda Division, while Mr. A. K. Patel continued as Giras Sub-Assistant and Durbar Representative, and Mr. G. H. Limaye remained on special duty as Alienation Inquiry Officer, Kadi Division.

Revenue Survey of Guaranteed Lands.

86. The Revenue Survey of guaranteed Wanta and Giras lands undertaken during the last year was completed during the year. The total expense for the two parties for this and the preceding years came to about Rs. 43,587.

87. The request of the Thakore of Itwad for extending the Alienation Inquiry to his wantas was sanctioned, as a special case, although it was time barred. Mr. Mehd in the Baroda Division inquired this year into about 7,333 Bighas of land divided into 659 holdings, leaving about 3,396 Bighas to be inquired into; while Mr. Limaye in the Kadi Division inquired into about 16,728 Bighas of land divided into 1,260 holdings, leaving about 6,621 Bighas to be inquired into. They have passed decisions in about 342 and 432 holdings, respectively.

Alienation inquiry

88. The Memorial submitted to the Government of India by the guaranteed Girassias against the levy of Local Cess by His Highness' Government has been rejected and our right to levy it confirmed.

Memorial against Local Cess by Guaranteed Girassias.

89. The other important question regarding the levy of Nazarana from the estate of Mandwa in Rewa Kantha Agency at the time of succession was not finally settled when the year closed.

Levy of succession Nazarana in Mandwa

90. The Department had, as usual, to do mainly the following work during the year:—

Scope and nature of work

(1) Inquiries into and passing decisions in
  (*a*) succession cases, and
  (*b*) miscellaneous claims;

(2) Correspondence with the Residency and other departments of the State, and with the Girassias;

(3) Buying up for a lump sum guaranteed land and cash Haks and commutation of land for an annual cash payment;

(4) Execution of the decisions of the Residency and the State Giras Courts and the inspection of the Taluka Offices; and

(5) Conducting appeals in the Residency.

Table showing work mentioned in para 90, sub-para (1).

91. The following table shows the work done during the year under the first head of the last paragraph :—

Nature of cases.	Balance at the end of last year.	New cases filed during the year	Total	Number of cases disposed of during the year.	Number of cases pending disposal at the end of the year
1	2	3	4	5	6
Succession cases	15	43	58	52	6
Miscellaneous claims	24	87	111	94	17

Residency correspondence

92. There were altogether 91 new Residency references and 2 of the last year; and all 93 were disposed of

Purchase, commutation, etc., of guaranteed lands and Haks.

93. The following table shows the purchase, commutation, etc., of guaranteed Giras lands and cash Haks and compares them with the figures of the last year :—

Year.	Land purchased for a lump sum.	Land commuted for annual Kothli Santh	Land divested of guarantee owing to private sales.	Total	Value of cash Haks purchased.	Value of cash Haks struck off.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Bighas	Bighas.	Bighas.	Bighas	Rs. a p	Rs a. p	Rs a. p.
1915–16	24 15 0	200 1 0	76 2 0	300 18 0	100 10 10	45 6 9	146 1 7
1916–17.	11 0 0	549 0 9	155 0 0	715 0 9	45 13 5	1 15 2	47 12 7

Besides the above, Rs. 5,000 have been paid to the Girassias of Bhinar as compensation for their alleged toddy rights by way of compromise.

Execution of decisions

94. The work of executing the decisions was up to date. The two decisions which remained pending at the end of the last year have since been executed.

Inspections of places and Taluka offices

95. The Giras Assistant visited 18 places for Alienation Inquiry and inspected 6 Taluka offices. Mr. Limaye visited 7 places for the Alienation Inquiry.

Work of the 1st Appellate Court

96. The following table shows the results of the appeals heard by the Giras Adhikari :—

Last year's balance	New file	Total	Disposal						
			Confirmed	Reversed.	Revised or modified	Amicably settled.	Remanded	Rejected as time barred	Balance at the end of the year
4	13	17	7	4	..	1	3	2	..

There were besides 150 appeals against the decisions of the Alienation Inquiry Officers, which were disposed of in the following manner :—

Confirmed.	Reversed	Revised or modified	Amicably settled.	Withdrawn.	Remanded.	Balance at the end of the year.	Total.
69	30	10	..	11	3	27	150

97. The following table shows the result of the appeals heard by the Residency :—

Residency Appeals.

Heads under which the decisions fell	During the year 1915-16	During the year 1916-17
1	2	3
Decisions of the Giras Ahdikari confirmed	11	11
Decisions of the Giras Adhikari reversed .. .	1	1
Decisions modified	3	...
Appeals withdrawn	1	...
Total .	16	12

The result was highly satisfactory. Out of 12 appeals, 8 involved Government interests, while 4 were purely between private persons. Of the 8 former, 1 was for extending guarantee to about 125 bighas in Vaghajipur; one against the levy of miscellaneous taxes from Banias residing in Linch Wanta; another against the levy of sarkar dues on additional land guaranteed in Ridrol; the fourth one was for reduction of jamabandi on Lodra on account of land taken up in Kalol-Vijapur Railway; the fifth was by the Thakore of Varsoda for awarding annually Rs. 1,000 as compensation for closure of his opium shop in Lodra. The rest of the appeals were not of any special importance. In all these 8 appeals the claims of the Girassias were rejected.

CHAPTER V.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

A.—Local Boards.

Number of Local Board Institutions.

1. The number of District Boards was the same (four) as in the preceding year and the number of Taluka Boards was 37 as against 38 in the preceding year This was due to the amalgamation of the Vakal Taluka Board with that of Velachha, the amalgamated Board being known as the Mangrol Taluka Board. The Village Panchayats were distributed in the four Districts as under :—

District	Number of Village Boards		Increase
	1916-17	1915-16	
Baroda	700	699	1
Kadi	892	883	9
Navsari	476	476	.
Amreli	242	242	
Total	2,310	2,300	10

The increase of one Village Board in the Baroda District and of nine in the Kadi District was due to the formation of new boards in the Inami and Ankadia Villages.

Constitution

2. The constitution of these boards remained the same as in the previous year. The Subas of the districts continued as Presidents of the District Boards and the Naib Subas presided over those of the talukas, while the village boards were presided over by the Village Patels. Non-official Vice-Presidents are now being elected in a number of selected Taluka Boards and legislative provision has been made in the Act for the privilege of elective non-official Presidents for District and Taluka Panchayats.

as well as Vishistha Panchayats. The following table shows the number of official and non-official members of District and Taluka Local Boards and their average attendance at the meetings :—

District	Members.			Total.	Average Attendance.		
	Elected.	Nominated					
		Official	Non-official		Official.	Non-official	Total
Baroda	112	59	65	236	28·6	80·1	108 7
Kadi	131	69	75	275	37·5	70 6	108·1
Navsari	75	39	45	159	30·17	49 52	79·69
Amreli	52	32	27	111	18 35	32 19	50 54
Total	370	199	212	781	114·62	232 41	347·03

The number of members was 781 against 777 of the preceding year. The increase of four members was due to two additional electorates in the shape of the new Vishishtha Panchayats at Dharmaj and Bhadarpur and to the nomination of Veterinary Surgeons in the Baroda Taluka and District Boards.

Income.

3. The income under various heads of the Local Boards is shown below :—

	Heads of Income.	1916-17	1915-16.
		Rs.	Rs
1	Local Cess (including last year's balances)	8,12,087	7,71,202
2	Contribution from Government for public libraries, schools and chowras	76,223	52,518
3.	Contribution from private individuals	35,198	20,357
4	Miscellaneous	8,902	17,342
5	Proceeds from ferry boats	55	54
6.	Rent from Dharmashalas and public buildings	115	82
7.	Recovery of advances and outstanding balances	52,267	43,394
8.	Reserve Fund	39,560	56,960
	Total	10 24,407	9,61,909

Expenditure. 4. The following statement shows the various heads of expenditure incurred by these bodies :—

	Items.	1916-17.	1915-16.
		Rs.	Rs.
1.	Administration . .	69,580	65,460
2.	Civil works	3,37,494	4,26,700
3	Education	2,20,191	2,61,417
4	Medical and Vaccination .	21,102	20,283
5	Sanitation and other works of public convenience . ..	14,713	13,118
6	Advances	40,474	56,806
7	Miscellaneous . . .	36,550	36,206
8	Contribution from Local Cess to Municipalities and Vishistha Panchayats	18,825	8,517
9	Refund of unspent savings of last year	62,199	....
10	Expenditure from last year's balances	308	5,137
11	Distribution of Local Cess to Village Boards for Civil Works .. .	.	....
	Total .	8,21 436	8,93,644

The increase under the head of administration was due to the entertainment of temporary establishments in the Kadi and Baroda Districts. The decrease under the head of Civil Works was due to less works being sanctioned and that under the head of Education to an adjustment that remained to be made in the Naosari District. Item No. 9 being one of mere book adjustment needs no special note.

Comparison of charges over Civil Works.

5. The following statement compares the charges under the various heads of Civil Works incurred during the year with those of the preceding year :—

Items	1916–17.	1915–16.
	Rs	Rs
A.—Communications :—		
(a) Original	25,450	48,030
(b) Repairs	33,610	29,672
Total	59,060	77,702
B.—Civil buildings :—		
(1) Chowras—		
(a) Original	38,450	40,222
(b) Repairs	26,452	32,555
Total .	64,902	72,777
(2) Public Buildings (Libraries, etc.)—		
(a) Original .	8,134	9,412
(b) Repairs	102	..
Total	8,236	9,412
(3) Tile-turning and supervision	4,780	6,820
Total for Civil Buildings	77,918	89,009
C.—Water-supply :—		
(1) Wells—		
(a) Original .	67,198	91,220
(b) Repairs .	49,555	60,484
Total	1,16,753	1,51,704
(2) Tanks—		
(a) Original	5,421	4,161
(b) Repairs .	42,288	60,145
Total	47,709	64,306
(3) Cattle-troughs—		
(a) Original . .	6,744	7,414
(b) Repairs . . .	712	5,105
Total	7,456	12,519
Total for Water-supply .	1,71,918	2,28,529
D.—Other Works :—		
(a) Original .	10,464	7,223
(b) Repairs ..	1,963	1,002
Total .	12,427	8,225
E.—Other works with the agency of Village Boards	4,102	3,329
Grand Total ..	3,25,425	4,06,794

The statement given above shows that attention to communications has somewhat relaxed to the detriment of public convenience, but it is hoped that the department will take special steps to promote the construction of good roads and the planting of roadside trees.

Judicial work done by Village Boards.

6. Those of the Village Boards that were invested with civil and criminal powers did their work on the whole satisfactorily.

Co-operation of Village Boards with Government in effecting village improvements

7. Village Boards are being taught to value the principle of co-operation with Government in effecting village improvements; and the more intelligent of Gam Panchayats acknowledge their obligation to contribute personal physical labour for stated days in the year for works of public utility in their rural economy.

Allotments of certain revenues to Village Boards

8. The question of setting apart certain allotments of Local Board revenues for the Village Boards and of augmenting the resources of the Local Boards in general are engaging the attention of Government.

B.—Vishistha Panchayats.

No. of Vishistha Panchayats.

9. There was no change in the number of Vishistha Panchayats: there were 12 Vishistha Panchayats in the Baroda District, 10 in the Kadi, 4 in the Naosari and 5 in the Amreli Districts, making a total of 31.

Constitution.

10. The constitution of the Vishistha Panchayats also remained unchanged. They combine the functions and responsibilities of the Village Boards with some of those of the municipalities. The number of meetings held by the Vishistha Panchayats ranged from 4 to 29. Non-official Presidents have been appointed in villages

which do not happen to be kasba towns, where the Vahivatdars often find it not convenient regularly to preside.

Income.

11. The income of these bodies during the last two years is given below :—

Heads of Income	1916-17.	1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs
1. Grants by Government	21,272	26,356
2. Municipal rates and taxes—		
(*a*) House-tax . .	33,501	28,071
(*b*) Octroi . . .	48,676	48,576
(*c*) Toll	5,381	3,768
(*d*) Water Cess	17,474	13,779
(*e*) Other taxes .	5,039	3,355
Total	1,10,071	1,23,005
3. Other sources of Income—		
(*a*) Rent of "Gamthan" land .	357	44
(*b*) Sale of Manure .. .	181	155
(*c*) Receipts from markets and slaughter houses .	924	729
(*d*) Miscellaneous.. ..	6,867	3,392
Total .	8,329	4,320
4. Contribution from Local Cess ..	8,486	7,203
Grand Total .	1,48,158	1,35,428

he increase in income was due to several causes such as the increase of octroi in the Kadi District, the introduction of house tax in Dharmaj and water cess in Sojitra in the Baroda District and to the recovery of past arrears in the Amreli District.

Expenditure.

12. The total expenditure during the last two years is shown below :—

Heads of Expenditure.	1916-17.	1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Administration	13,756	12,349
2. Public safety (lighting and protection from fire)	22,046	19,115
3. Public health and convenience (conservancy, public works, watering roads, etc)	92,864	99,552
Total ..	1,28,666	1,31,016

The expenditure during the year under report was less than the previous year because the Vishistha Panchayats executed fewer works of public utility. Government has however drawn the attention of these bodies to the importance of spending adequately on important works of public utility.

Inspection

13. The work of these bodies was inspected by the Subas, the Sanitary Commissioner and the Accounts Department.

General remarks

14. All the Vishistha Panchayats are authorised to hear and dispose of petty civil and criminal cases and the work done by them in this behalf was fairly satisfactory.

C.—Municipalities.

Number of Municipalities.

15. The number of self-governing municipalities remained unchanged. The Subas of the districts continued to be Presidents of the Patan, Naosari and Amreli Munici-

palities and the Naib Subas of the divisions concerned were the Presidents of those of Visnagar, Sidhpur, Dabhoi, Petlad, Gandevi and Billimora, while for the Baroda City Municipality, the Municipal Commissioner continued to be the President and exercised the powers of the Suba in connection with municipal works.

Constitution.

16. The following table shows the number of meetings held by, and the number of members in the several Municipalities :—

Name of the Municipality	Number of meetings held	Number of Members.	
		Elected.	Nominated.
Baroda ..	23	24	12
Dabhoi .	40	10	10
Petlad ..	23	12	12
Patan .	15	12	12
Sidhpur .	8	10	10
Visnagar .	16	10	10
Naosari ..	11	12	12
Gandevi ..	16	8	8
Billimora ..	8	8	8
Amreli ..	10	12	12
Total ..	170	118	106

The number of meetings held during the previous ye was 140.

17. The gross income of all the municipalities was Rs. 7,95,914, as against Rs. 6,44,820 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 1,51,094.

Total income of all Municipalities.

Income of Baroda City Municipality.

18. The following table shows the income of the Baroda City Municipality :—

Sources	1916-17.	1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs
1 Grant from Government	2,00,000	90,000
2 Municipal rates and taxes—		
(a) Octroi ..	1,95,346	1,81,106
(b) Tax on animals and vehicles	9,071	8,982
(c) Tolls on roads .	6,312	5,876
(d) Water cess . ..	81,060	97,291
(e) Conservancy rates ..	29,829	29,344
(f) Drainage	8,799	5,823
(g) Other sources	36,039	35,234
(h) Miscellaneous . ..	27,449	24,041
Total ..	5,93,905	4,77,697

The increase in the revenue was principally due to the enhanced Government grants of Rs. 2,00,000 as against Rs. 9,000 in the preceding year. The heads of income except water cess have also shown a satisfactory increase partly due to prompt and careful recoveries and partly to intrinsic increase of income under the several heads. Water-cess alone in spite of enhancement in the rates shows a fall which is paradoxical since, under the altered procedure of collections, the cess for the second half of a year is to be recovered in the beginning of the next.

Income of other Municipalities.

19. The income of other Municipalities is shown in the following table :—

Sources	1916-17	1915-16
	Rs	Rs.
Municipal rates and taxes .	1,34,736	1,34,454
Other sources .	59,228	24,866
Miscellaneous	8,044	7,803
Total ..	2,02,008	1,67,123

The increase under the head of "Other Sources" was mainly due to the increase under water-cess receipts in the Pattan Municipality.

Expenditure of all Municipalities.

20. The total expenditure of all the Municipalities taken together was Rs. 6,17,845 as against Rs. 8,15,410 in the preceding year.

Expenditure of the Baroda City Municipality.

21. The expenditure of the Baroda City Municipality during the year was as follows : --

Item.	1916-17	1915-16.
	Rs	Rs.
General Administration . .	83,505	77,014
Other charges..	37,777	31,815
Roads . .	58,342	69,095
Other public works .	39,010	18,831
Conservancy	1,02,903	1,07,319
Road watering	34,034	39,863
Lighting	40,007	34,257
Water works	42,380	1,99,900
Drainage	1,277	65,874
Compensation . .	4,822	16,882
Total	4,44,057	6,60,850

The transfer of the City Water-works to the Municipality involving the entertainment of additional staff and the introduction of the bill system after the Ahmedabad practice resulted in a larger expenditure under the head of " Administration." Adjustment during the year of old accounts was responsible for the increase under the head of " Other charges." Similarly completion during the year of unfinished works of the

year preceding requiring the payment of the bills thereof accounts for the increase under "Other public works." The decrease under the items of water works and drainage is only apparent as the accounts between the Municipality on the one hand and the P. W. Department and the City Improvement Trust on the other were still to be made up. The other variations were due to ordinary reasons and call for no special remarks.

Expenditure of other Municipalities.

22. The following were the principal items of expenditure of the other Municipalities during the year :—

Items	1916-17	1915-16
	Rs	Rs.
General Administration	13,789	13,131
Roads and other public works	28,771	31,006
Road watering .. .	6,661	7,740
Conservancy . . .	40,414	39,566
Lighting . ..	21,506	20,639
Other charges	56,758	36,791
Compensation	5,889	5,687
Total ..	1,73,788	1,54,560

The increase under the head of "Other charges" was mainly due to the payment of interest by the Pattan Municipality on the loan taken for the construction of water works.

Roads in District Municipal Towns taken up by Government.

23. Government have decided to take up the main roads in the Municipal Towns in the Districts under their own charge and this will give considerable relief to the Municipal finances..

The Local Boards and Municipalities continued to work under the general supervision of the Joint Sar Suba.

CHAPTER VI.

INDUSTRIES.

A.—Agriculture.

Personnel.

1. Mr. G. V. Gokhale, L.Ag., officiated as Director of Agriculture upto the 8th of February 1917, when he reverted to the Revenue Department as Vahivatdar and Mr. A. C. Desai, L.Ag., M.A. (Wisconsin), who was appointed Director, remained in charge of the Department during the remaining period of the year.

Mr. C. V. Sane, B.Ag., M.Sc. (Wisconsin), on his return from the United States of America, where he was sent by Government for higher studies in Agriculture, was appointed as Deputy Director from 17th February 1917.

From March 1917 Mr. S. G. Naravane, Geologist and Mechanical Engineer, was taken up so that his services could be available to the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce.

Expenditure and receipts

2. The total expenditure of the Department for the year under report was Rs. 58,439 as against Rs. 53,836 for the year 1915-16, showing an increase of Rs. 4,603, while the total receipts were Rs. 12,458 as against Rs. 12,717 for the year 1915-16. The increase in expenditure was mostly due to the opening of a new farm near Gomti tank in Okhamandal, the creation of two additional posts of Agricultural Inspectors and special expenditure for demonstrations and exhibitions.

(*a*) Model Farms.

Model Farms or Agricultural Stations.

3. During the year the Department had under its control four agricultural stations or model farms located at Baroda, Jagudan, Dabhoi and Dwarka. The farm attached to the

Dhanka school at Songhad was also under the management of the Agricultural Department. These farms are intended for investigating into the problems of improvements, demonstrating to the visiting cultivators the best methods of tillage and crop treatment and for bringing to their notice improvements of proved value. The main investigations conducted on these farms consisted of varietal, manurial, spacing, rotation and double cropping experiments.

Baroda Farm.

4. The main experiments on this farm consisted of several kinds :

(*i*) *Varietal experiments.*—The varietal experiments on this farm were confined to wheat and groundnuts.

Wheat.—Comparative trials of four varieties of Wheat—katha, pissi, popatia and tamra—showed that under the same conditions tamra and popatia gave 50 lbs. and 80 lbs. higher yield respectively than the other varieties. But considering the quality and price of the grain, the result was in favour of tamra.

Groundnuts (dry).—Dry groundnuts are being now successfully grown in the greater part of the State and the area under this valuable crop is increasing, but heavy labour and cost of harvesting put a limit to the expansion of the crop. Experiments were therefore laid out with a view to minimise these difficulties. Of the three varieties, *viz.*, big Japan, big erect and the Spanish peanut that were tried on the farm, the big variety promised better results. The results of a single season however may not be regarded as conclusive. Apart from the varietal characteristic of different kinds of groundnuts, it is

possible to devise means, such as, use of special implements for harvesting without much trouble or cost, and experiments will therefore be laid out on these lines during the next season.

(vi) *Manurial experiments* :—The manurial experiments were conducted with cotton, tobacco and sugar-cane.

Cotton : Bulky manures.—To find out a suitable substitute for farm yard manure, 'Mahura' refuse and poudrette were tried along with farm yard manure. All the three gave about the same yield of seed cotton. The results indicate the possibility of utilising factory and other village refuse in place of farm yard manure and releasing the latter for more important crops.

Artificial manures.—The result of experiments with artificial manures on cotton was very disappointing : super-phosphate + muriate of potash and super-phosphate + nitrate of potash not only cost considerably more, but they also gave lesser yield of seed cotton than the farm yard manure. Similar results were obtained with cotton and bajri in the past, and it is very doubtful if the use of artificial manures in our dry crops will be paying or advisable.

Tobacco.—Two series of experiments were laid out to determine the value of green manure of 'guvar' as compared with farm yard manure alone and farm yard and green manures combined. All the plots without green manure gave higher yield of leaf. The result of these experiments should be accepted with some caution as a good supply of *humus* provided in green manuring, should, under ordinary circumstances, prove of special

advantage to the tobacco crop. But the main difficulty, often experienced in the green manuring of tobacco, is that unless sufficient time is allowed for the 'guvar' to rot and for the after preparation of land, the manure does more harm than good. The special point for investigation in this connection would therefore be to ascertain the earliest time when 'guvar' can be ploughed in the soil so as to secure both its manurial value and to allow the required period for its decay and preparation of the land. Green manure either of 'san' (hemp), 'guvar' or any other leguminous crop is an important manure and it is desirable to extend its use for all irrigated crops particularly to relieve the great scarcity of manures existing in the country.

All artificials tried on tobacco resulted in heavy losses. Combinations of farm yard manure, super-phosphate, potassium sulphate and calcium nitrate increased the yield of dry leaf by about 150 lbs. per acre. But the prices of these chemicals were so heavy that it did not pay to use them.

Sugarcane.—Comparative trials of farm yard manure alone, poudrette alone and farm yard manure, castor cake and ammonium sulphate combined resulted in favour of the last combination. The difference in favour of the latter was by 172 lbs. and 440 lbs. of 'gul' (jaggery) per acre over farm yard manure and poudrette respectively. These experiments confirmed the results obtained at the Manjri Farm where in addition to the farm yard manure or green manure of 'san' (hemp) a dose of 75 lbs. of nitrogen in the form of safflower cake and 75 lbs. of nitrogen in the form of ammonium sulphate per acre have all throughout

given the highest yield. The substitution of castor cake for safflower in the Baroda tract is necessary to check the attacks of white ants. The use of oil cake for the sugarcane crop has now increased through the recommendations of the Department.

(*iii*) *Spacing Experiments*:—To determine the best distance between the rows of lalio cotton, three plots were sown with distances of two feet, three feet and four feet and they yielded 932 lbs., 668 lbs. and 428 lbs. of seed cotton, respectively, showing the special advantage in favour of the two feet distance. In the soil of Baroda, most crops throw out profuse foliage at the expense of fruit and seed; and this tendency is apparently checked by a little overcrowding.

(*iv*) *New Crops.*—In addition to the special crop experiments stated above, the new crops of "barseem," "rajgira" and the Mauritius variety of sugarcane which were introduced last year were successfully grown. Indigo was also introduced on the farm and grown with a view to supply its seed to the cultivators for reviving the culture of indigo in the State.

(*v*) *Model or Demonstration Area.*—In the model area, all the important crops of the district—dry and irrigated—were grown for demonstrating to the cultivators the best methods of tillage and crop treatment. The chief crops grown were bajri, cotton, groundnut, ginger, chillies, Guinea-grass, potatoes, onions, linseed, *jiru*, tobacco, turmeric and *varali*. The condition of nearly all the crops was good and compared very favourably with that on the cultivators' fields in the surrounding locality. *Jiru*, however, failed entirely and

ginger suffered somewhat from the excess of magnesium salts in the well-water.

(vi) *Other Activities of the Farm.*—A buffalo bull kept for breeding was used by fourteen cultivators. They freely availed of this special advantage and its use for the last eight years has resulted in a general improvement of the breed of buffaloes in the surrounding villages.

(vii) *Supply of Seed and Implements.*—In the year under report, the farm supplied seed of indigo, lucerne, sundhia cotton, *jiru* and other crops, to the total of 10,076 lbs.

Jagudan Farm.

5 The main investigations conducted on this farm consisted of varietal trials with tobacco and chillies and double cropping of bajri followed by different irrigated crops of the Districts—

(i) *Tobacco.*—To ascertain the possibility of profitably introducing into the Kadi District the 'Charotar' variety of tobacco, it was tried in comparison with the local varieties. Under same conditions the 'Charotar' variety gave a higher yield of 35 lbs. of dry leaf per acre and also fetched a higher price on account of its superior quality. The result was encouraging and the experiments will be continued for two or more seasons in order to arrive at definite conclusions.

(ii) *Chillies.*—Two of the local thick and thin skinned varieties were tried. The thick skin variety gave 33 lbs. higher yield than the other, but on account of the higher prices of the latter, the money value realised was about the same for both.

(*iii*) *Double Cropping.*—In order to ascertain the advantages of double cropping in irrigated fields and also to determine the most profitable combination of crops, a series of experiments, in which bajri was to be followed by six different crops, was laid out. But on account of insufficient supply of water in the well, the experiments had to be given up.

(*iv*) *Continuous growing of Lucerne*—In the Kadi District lucerne is broadcasted in the beds and the crop usually withers away in the summer months of the first year of its growth. This is due probably to the compaction of the soil caused by constant irrigation and consequent prevention of soil aeration and bacterial action and probably also to suffocation of roots. By careful stirring of the soil and light dressing of manure, it was found possible to save the lucerne crop of the farm and it continued to yield normal cuttings during the second year of its growth and was quite in a healthy state upto the end of the year. This meant a saving of expenditure for fresh preparation of land, seed and three months' yield of lucerne, all amounting to about Rs. 80 per acre.

(*v*) *Castor Cake for White Ants.*—Castor cake was successfully tried to prevent the attacks of white ants on chillies. The untreated plot had 10% of its plants attacked by white ants, while the other plot subjected to castor cake was practically free from any attack. The use of castor cake can therefore be safely recommended as a temporary preventive for white ants.

(*vi*) *Farm Well.*—The supply of water in the farm well had, on account of general lowering of water

level, considerably decreased. There was hardly 1½ *kos* of water available in the well and the crops suffered severely during the summer months. In the bottom of the well which consisted of sand strata, a wooden 'Kathwa' five feet deep was sunk, resulting in a copious supply of water. It cost only Rs. 75 including labour; and the increase in the water amounted to over 3 *kos*, making a total supply of about 5 *kos*. In wells where water is found in sand beds, such Kathwas will prove more advantageous than boring, and a small dredger for the removal of sand and driving in the Kathwa is likely to add to the facility.

Dabhoi Farm.

6. This farm was opened in 1915, but on account of its location on a higher level than the main irrigation channels and consequent difficulty in securing water for the farm crops, it was found unsuitable and had therefore to be closed in June 1917. Although no special experiments could be undertaken on this farm, it proved instrumental in extending the area under sugarcane in the villages commanded by the Wadhwana tank from 15 bighas in 1915-16 to 50 in the year under report. Most of the cane grown on the farm was sold away for seed purposes to the cultivators.

Dwarka Farm.

7. This farm was opened late in June 1916 and part of the year was spent in plotting and general laying out of the farm. It was, however, soon found that a part of the farm area was quite above the level of the water-supply channel from the Gomati tank, and the water from the tank was quite insufficient to meet the requirements even for the farm crops. Consequently all the irrigated crops suffered from scarcity

of water and most of them did not even mature. Proposals were before Government to close this farm and open a new one near the village Vasai in the same taluka.

Songadh Farm.

8. This farm is intended for giving practical instruction in agriculture to the students of the Dhanka school. Thirty-six kinds of different crops were grown entirely with the help of the students. This farm continued to serve as a medium for introducing into the locality remunerative irrigated crops.

New Farms.

9. Government have ordered the opening of two demonstration farms, one in Navsari and another in Amreli. With the opening of these, every district will have at least one central station for investigating its problems and centralising other agricultural activities.

(*b*) EDUCATIVE WORK.

Agricultural Inspectors

10. Two new permanent posts of Agricultural Inspectors were sanctioned, one for Amreli and another for Navsari, thus providing each district with a graduate Agricultural Inspector. They visited in all 193 villages for lecturing to the cultivators on agricultural improvements and explaining to them the advantages of organising agricultural associations and co-operative societies. They organised 29 local demonstrations and supplied over 25,000 lbs. of selected cotton seed, groundnuts, indigo, lucerne, ginger, turmeric and other seeds. Towards the close of the year, Government sanctioned a scheme for village to village moving demonstrations in one or two talukas of each district with the view of bringing home to the cultivators the advantages of improved implements and manures.

11. There were 31 District and Taluka Agricultural Associations as against 21 in the preceding year. These associations had a total membership of 1,800, and served to introduce various improvements. Six of these associations maintained small seed and implement depôts, and four of them held small local shows and demonstrations. The Navsari and the Amreli District Associations contributed Rs. 300 each towards the recurring expenses of the moving demonstrations The majority of them were, however, in a dormant condition.

Agricultural Associations.

12. Seven associations of intelligent and enthusiastic cultivators residing in a group of adjoining villages were organised during the year. Each member of the association was required to undertake the trial of at least one improvement recommended by the Department, and, if found successful, to introduce it in his village. The first association organised at Maroli in Navsari taluka did very good work.

Associations of village groups

13. For experiments of a very minor nature, the Department has developed a system of trials in co-operation with the cultivators. 25 persons were selected for the purpose during the year. They undertook trials with a new system of transplanting rice, use of fish manure for plantains and cultivation of ginger, pepper and *jiru* as new crops. If the right sort of cultivators could be secured for such undertakings, the system promises to prove of great advantage to the Department and to the cultivators.

Co-operative trials with cultivators

14. A moving demonstration of implements, agricultural tools, seed, etc., on all the railway stations in the Baroda District was organised in November and December 1916. Practical demonstrations were held at 24 stations and were attended by over 14,000 cultivators. In the Agricultural and Industrial

Demonstrations and Exhibitions

Exhibition held at Baroda in January 1917, everything useful and instructive to the cultivators—from farm products to agricultural machinery—was exhibited.

Agricultural School

15. The agricultural school for the children of cultivators located at Jagudan was transferred to the Baroda Model Farm from the 1st of June 1917. There were 17 scholarships of Rs. 8 each kept open—8 by Government and 9 by District Local Boards. The course of instruction has been laid out on lines similar to those adopted at the Loni school near Poona, and separate plots were reserved in the model area of the farm for the practical instruction of the students. One student is being trained at the Poona Agricultural College as a State scholar.

General educative work

16. Through the activity of the Department, ground-nut, ginger, turmeric, *alu*, yams, tobacco and san (hemp) crops were introduced in parts of the Amreli District; and ground-nut, ginger, garlic and indigo in parts of the Kadi District. The area under indigo in Kadi and Baroda was extended by about 300 acres. Three hundred acres were sown with pure cotton seed of Surat variety and 1,200 acres with pure Navsari cotton. The last item is of special importance as the fraudulent trade practices and consequent extension of short staple varieties are threatening to destroy the long staple of Navsari and Surat tracts. It was found extremely difficult to secure pure seed of Navsari variety and the Department is thankful to the Manager of the Tata Gins at Navsari who co-operated with the Director in selecting pure cotton from his stock and getting it ginned separately.

(*c*) Entomology.

17. The Superintendent of Entomology continued his field demonstrations for preventing and checking the attacks of *katras*, boll worms on cotton, stem-borers in tobacco, jassides on mango, and white ants.

(d) VETERINARY.

18. There were six veterinary dispensaries, one each at Baroda, Navsari, Amreli, Mehsana, Patan and Bhadran. The last one was opened in July 1917 with a third of the expenditure defrayed by the Taluka Local Board. Government has sanctioned the opening of three dispensaries every year in places where the Local Boards offer to defray a third of the expenditure. In these dispensaries 5,456 animals were treated during the year, of which 4,452 were cured, 442 were relieved, 337 absented, 72 died and 153 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Of the diseases treated, the most common were the specific, nervous, circulatory, skeleton, eye and ear, skin, lymphatic, digestive and urinary. In Amreli and Kadi Districts, a very large number of cases consisted of cancer in the horn and calculus in the urethra. These diseases are so common that the matter requires close investigation. Mr. H V. Save, the Veterinary Surgeon at Patan, has been asked to undertake a detailed inquiry. 55 reports of epidemics of anthrax and foot and mouth diseases were received, of which 47 were attended to by the Veterinary Surgeons.

(e) MISCELLANEOUS.

Co-operation from Local Boards

19. Some District and Taluka Local Boards co-operated with the Department in supplying seed of new crops and implements to the cultivators.

Assistance from Co-operative Societies.

20. Co-operative Societies purchased selected cotton seed from this Department. The Co-operative Union of Kodinar took an active interest in introducing improvements. It successfully introduced the Poona system of 'Gul' making. Sugarcane is an important crop of the taluka, but the cost of fuel is so great and the process of manufacturing 'gul' so defective that the introduction of the Poona furnace and the improved method of 'gul' making will result in a great

saving to the cultivators and may even tend to increase the area under sugarcane.

Well-boring

21. Twenty-six wells were bored, out of which 20 were successful, 3 unsuccessful and 3 incomplete.

Agricultural implements

22. The question of effecting improvements in local agricultural implements and tools and manufacturing them in Baroda similar to those of foreign importation was undertaken during the year. A plough similar to B. T. 2 was prepared in the Kala-Bhavan workshops and on trial at the Baroda Farm gave very encouraging results. 500 plough shares for the same kind of plough were also manufactured at the reduced cost of Re. 1-4-0 per share as against the current price of Rs. 2-8-0 for the English make. With a view to avoid the necessity of constant repairs to and replacements of the shares in the wooden ploughs used in the sandy tracts of the State and to maintain their efficiency which is considerably reduced on account of the heavy wear and tear, a shoe-like share with chilled point and edges to be attached to the wooden body of the plough was prepared in the Kala-Bhavan. It worked very satisfactorily on the Baroda Model Farm and has been now adopted for general use. With a slight change in its construction, this new share promises to answer the requirements of parts of Kadi and Amreli Districts. Its cost is only Re. 1-4-0 and its special advantages are that it is very lasting and self-sharpening and saves the cultivators an annual expenditure of 3 to 4 rupees over repairs and replacements of wooden and iron parts. Though the Monsoon, Hindustan, B. T. 2 and other ploughs are undoubtedly better and more efficient implements, these locally improved patterns are likely to suit the mass of cultivators, most of whom have either no means or are not prepared to purchase costly implements.

23. A breeding bull from the Chharodi Farm was supplied free of charge to the Amreli Local Boards for the use of cultivators. With a view to improve the local breeds of cattle, Government has sanctioned a lump sum grant of Rs. 3,000 for the supply of selected bulls to the Local Boards on their undertaking to bear the cost of their care and upkeep.

Breeding.

B.—Commerce.

24. Mr. Manilal B. Nanavati held the office of Director of Commerce and Industries throughout the year.

Personnel.

25 The year under report was another successful year for all the old industries in the State: almost all the industries worked continuously and at a profit. Of the factories that were closed during the previous year, the Sayaji Cotton Seed Oil Mill at Baroda changed hands and started the work of crushing castor and linseed. It found a ready market for its oils, specially the double-distilled linseed oils. The Rosy Tile Works at Ajrai expanded their factory and turned out the Mangalore pattern tiles in large quantities. The agency of the Gaekwad Sugar Factory was transferred, but before the agents could commence work, an application was put up by some creditors to send it into liquidation. It is hoped, however, that with compromise this important industry will be revived.

Old Industries.

26. An application received from a rich merchant of Damnagar for a lease of the Madhi and Charakla creeks of Dwarka for the manufacture of magnesium chloride out of the salt deposits was before Government for consideration. A small factory has been started at Petlad for the manufacture of writing-slates. The Vaso Slate-pen Factory has also started manufacturing writing-pencils similar to slate-pens and they are

New Industries.

getting popular. Mr. Parashram Ganpule of Baroda was floating a Joint Stock Company for the manufacture of Mangalore pattern tiles. Concessions have been given to a Bombay gentleman for the working of the lime-stone deposits at Dwarka for the manufacture of cement. The ochre and china clay deposits at Kot-Rampur, Vijapur Taluka, have been leased out, and it is likely that a refinery will be set up in a short time. A Bombay merchant has been given a piece of land at Bilimora for starting a Mangalore tile factory A local Kansara was manufacturing copper and brass sheets on the Kala-Bhavan rollers and turned out daily about 5 maunds of them.

Loans to industries

27. Infant industries were financed with the usual liberality: a loan of Rs. 15.000 was given to the National Metal Works Co., Ltd., and another of Rs. 35,000 to the Hind Candle Works of Bilimora, bringing the total loan to the latter industry to Rs. 1,60,000. The requests of Mr. Ganpule of the Baroda Tile Works for Rs. 50,000 and of the Kansara, who is turning out copper sheets for Rs. 5,000, have likewise been granted.

Hand loom weaving Demonstrations.

28. The staff in this branch consisted of one assistant, three demonstrators and three weavers. The three demonstrators with their weavers worked in the Kadi, Navsari and Baroda Districts. The Kadi party worked principally at Vadnagar, Visnagar, Valam, Sander and Kanthravi, the Baroda party at Baroda, Petlad, Pij and in a few villages of the Padra Taluka; and the Navsari demonstrator worked at Navsari and Gandevi. Amreli also got the benefit of the demonstrations for a month. The work at Kadi was very successful, since more than fifty fly-shuttle looms have been introduced in that district. The Navsari and the Gandevi weavers did not much favour the fly-shuttle looms, but they adopted improved dobbies. The Baroda demonstrator was more successful with the hand-warping machines. Altogether 75

looms, 15 dobbies and 3 hand-warping machines were introduced—a fair result considering the conservatism of the weaving community.

The Weaving Assistant supervised the working of the demonstration parties and carried on a few experiments in improving the present mechanism of the looms. A Jacquard hand-loom was prepared and experiments were made with double shuttle type. A Khatri weaver of Baroda was induced to introduce an automatic loom and a tape weaving loom. Arrangements were made to train for sometime the pupils of the Amreli Stri Hunnar Shala (Female Industrial School) in hosiery knitting machines.

Weaving Demonstrations at the Exhibition

29. At the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition held in the month of January 1917, a complete weaving demonstration was conducted by the Department. Various kinds of looms and accessories designed by the Department were shown in working order and a power loom worked by electric motor was shown weaving silk 'Pitambars.' One of the demonstrators was also sent to the Junagadh Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition in the month of February.

Scholarships to Artisans

30. Otia Nathu Vithal, a member of the famous Otia family of potters of Pattan, was sent to Mangalore to learn tile-making. He returned during the year under report and was engaged in starting a small factory for the manufacture of flooring tiles. One shoe-maker from Baroda was sent to Cawnpore for being trained at the shoe-making class.

Village Industries.

31. There is ample scope for improving the methods of flaying skins and pit curing of hides by the 'Chamars' in the villages. An inquiry was made and a suitable local man was sought for by advertisements to go to Madras for learning the art of leather

curing at the Government School. But as there was no response, there is an idea of importing a man from the school to serve as a demonstrator in Baroda.

Kodinar Fisheries

32. There were two experimental stations in the State during the year under report: one at Velan in Kodinar, and the other in the Okhamandal Taluka of the Amreli District. The Velan Experimental Station at Kodinar, in charge of Mr. Kaikhusro R Dotivala, was started with a view to test new nets and scientific methods of preserving fish, and to demonstrate the processes, if successful, to fishermen and fish merchants. The experiments were highly successful as the fish cured in the Government yard was far superior to the fish cured by old methods as evidenced by the considerably higher prices (in some cases by more than twenty-five, fifty and hundred per cent.) realised for the fish of the station. *Pura*, a valuable fish, which is caught in great quantities at Madhwar is cured by the fishermen for manure only. This was preserved for edible purposes at the station, and if the fishermen take to this fish, their profits will in all probability largely increase Unfortunately there are not as yet appreciable signs of the people following these improved methods, though in course of time some progress can be expected.

Kotda Creek Improvements

33. Kotda creek near the Velan Bunder was deepened and improved so that small fishing vessels may come there and conduct fishing. Concessions in Jakat, Mori dues, etc., were also announced. As a result five boats came there for the first time.

Okha Fisheries.

34. The Okha Fisheries were in charge of Mr. S. R. Gupte, the other Assistant, who conducted the investigation in the Gulf of Cutch. With the assistance from Mr. Hornell, the Marine Biologist, Madras, Department of Fishery, five divers were secured from Tuticorin.

But as they came a little late, the work could not be carried out under the most favourable conditions necessary; the south-west monsoon winds had set in and the currents were strong. The investigation was nevertheless undertaken principally for real pearl beds, but they were not discovered. The window pane oyster experimental farms formed the next item of Mr. Gupte's work. Six creeks were selected in the Taluka for stocking window-pane oysters. Altogether 38,000 oysters were distributed. In the Gomti creek the experiment failed as the conditions were unfavourable, but in other places they promised to thrive. The exact result will be seen ere long when the breeding season commences. These experiments were conducted with the advice of Mr. Hornell, who visited Okha occasionally and inspected the creeks and advised Government about the lines on which the work should be carried on in future. Supervision over the window pane oyster fishery was necessary to prevent the destruction of undersized oysters by the contractor's labourers and Mr. Gupte was asked to do it

35. The Geological Survey could not be taken in hand in time for want of a suitable expert. Mr. S. G. Naravane was appointed in April, but could not start regular work as the season had far advanced. He, however, visited Dwarka and released the deposits of gypsum from the prohibition of their being worked by the people. He likewise visited Ghala in Kamrej and traced the deposits of pyrites along the Tapti to a length of about 1,000 feet. Samples were taken and were awaiting the analytical results by Dr. Sudborough of the Tata Research Institute for further prospecting

Geological Survey.

The cement stone of Velachha, although suitable for the manufacture of natural cement, was reported to be uneconomical on account of the heavy working expenses due to the capping of blacksoil to the depth of about 30 feet.

36. The third meeting of the Industrial Advisory Board was held on the 25th and 26th September 1916. The proceedings were opened by the Dewan, Mr. Manubhai N. Mehta, M.A., LL.B., and the meeting was presided over by Mr. Khaserao B. Jadhav. Old pending questions were first taken up. In the previous year's meeting about 57 proposals were submitted to the Standing Committees for consideration. All these were returned to the Board for consideration with their opinions. They were disposed of as under—

The Industrial Advisory Board

23 were sent to the Departments concerned for consideration,

3 were given to a Special Committee appointed for the purpose,

5 were sent to the District Committees, and

26 were rejected as useless.

Besides these, there were 80 new suggestions, of which 15 were on commerce and banking, 13 on industries, 44 on agriculture and 8 on co-operation. All these were disposed of as under :—

1 was sent to the Standing Committee on Agriculture,

1 was sent to the District Standing Committee,

38 were forwarded to the Departments concerned for consideration,

3 were given to a special committee for inquiry.

28 were mere inquiries (and the explanations or the information given by the Departments were communicated to the members),

1 was withdrawn, and

8 were rejected as useless.

It will appear from the above analysis that this year's proposals were more to the point and business-like.

Of the Standing Committees, the one regarding industries met very regularly and acted as a sort of Board of Industries to the Department of Commerce and Industry. All the important questions under consideration by this Department were submitted to the Committee for opinion. An important feature of the working of the Advisory Board was the appointment of District Committees for the consideration of local problems. The Navsari and the Amreli Committees met once or twice and inquired and gave their opinions on questions referred to them; while the other Committees did not meet at all. The work of the Agricultural Committee was not properly done as there were two transfers of the officers in charge of the Agricultural Department during a very short period.

Board's suggestions acted upon

37. As recommended by the Board, Government engaged a Soap Expert for six months. He visited all the oil mills of the State and started a few experiments in the Kala-Bhavan. In the meanwhile his services were asked for by the Hind Candle Works of Billimora. Mr. Chakraverty, the Soap Expert, worked at the factory for four months and organised a soap department.

A class was contemplated in the Kala-Bhavan on soap making, but owing to disagreement regarding certain terms of appointment, the expert's services could not be renewed. The Kala-Bhavan is however taking up the question.

From the funds placed at the disposal of the committee by Government, the old mint rollers in the Kala-Bhavan were cleaned and placed in working order and were leased out to a local Kansara, power being supplied by the Kala-Bhavan. The rollers were turning out good brass and copper sheets and

Mr. Nāravane was assisting the industry and supervising the work. An anealing chamber is required and will be constructed very shortly.

The recommendation of the Board to appoint a ceramic expert for making a survey of the deposits of clay in the State and assisting the clay factories in making experiments could not be acted upon for want of a suitable expert.

Besides these, several other questions of detail were discussed regarding the working of various Departments; and in most cases the recommendations of the Board were adopted by Government

Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition

38. An Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition was held at Baroda in the month of January 1917. It was organised on a fairly large scale and had five sections: Agriculture, Forest, Horticulture, Education and Industries, including arts. Nearly 30,000 exhibits were received and special attention was paid to practical demonstrations and shows in all sections. A series of lectures was also organised on various subjects. Mr. Nanavati worked as Secretary to the Exhibition with Rao Bahadur G. H. Desai as President and all the administrative work of the Exhibition as well as of organisation of the Industrial Section was done by this Department. A special report of the Exhibition was published during the year.

Patronage of local industries

39. Under the orders of the Dewan, Rules were sanctioned for the purchase from local industries of such Government stores as were locally available; and a list of local industries was prepared and circulated to all the various offices of the State. The rules are strict and in every instance where foreign articles are to be given preference over local manufactures, permission of the Dewan is required.

40. The principal work done under this head was the preparation of the statistical abstract of the State and the collection of the Rail-borne Traffic and Industrial Statistics. The statistics published in the old abstract have now been revised by eliminating about twenty useless tables and adding other useful ones instead.

Statistical Bureau.

The statistics of the Rail-borne Traffic have been received from the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company which manages all the State Railways. They were being collated and will be soon published.

C.—Agricultural Banks.

41. There were four Agricultural Banks working during the year; the following table gives a combined statement of the financial position of the Banks :—

Financial position of the Agricultural Banks.

Statement showing the Financial Position of the Agricultural Banks.

No	Item	Songhad Bank		Vyara Bank		Bhadran Bank		Amreli Bank	
		1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17
		Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p
1	Nominal Capital	12,500 0 0	12 500 0 0	14 190 0 0	14,190 0 0	1 00,000 0 0	1,00,000 0 0	50 000 0 0	50 000 0 0
2	Paid-up Capital—								
	(1) State	6 250 0 0	6 250 0 0	6 250 0 0	6 250 0 0	21 664 0 0	21 664 0 0	18 750 0 0	18 750 0 0
	(2) Private	4 560 0 0	4 560 0 0	7 940 0 0	7 940 0 0	21,921 0 0	21 921 0 0	6 900 0 0	5 707 8 0
3	Deposits at the end of the year	12,240 3 6	1,888 15 9	9,208 8 10	7 358 8 2	16,161 13 0	12 366 3 0	7,803 11 3	10,311 6 10
4	Reserve Fund	9 183 1 8	9 186 6 5	7 744 9 1	7 830 11 10	1 014 0 0	1 481 10 9	692 1 1	854 1 1
5	Surplus Fund		1 165 11 8	156 7 9	507 10 4	912 0 0	1 722 8 7	1 234 8 2	2 828 1 1
6	Net profit	1 602 5 0	1 353 14 7	1 029 4 7	861 12 7	2,698 10 1	2 706 0 3	1 625 7 0	1 529 3 4
7	Loans recovered by the Banks	16,106 13 5	10 418 9 2	22 386 7 6	13 741 8 8	40 544 15 6	48 311 1 6	4 365 5 4	10 239 1 0
8	Loans outstanding at the end of the year—								
	(1) Co-operative Societies	3 567 1 3	1 726 12 9	3 865 8 1	249 7 11	26,610 5 3	20 535 9 0	10 786 13 4	6 620 9 8
	(2) Individual Khatedars	23 127 2 0	17 040 15 10	17 372 6 7	11 311 1 8	24 765 7 0	24 685 9 6	19 451 6 6	17,240 10 10
9	Cash and other investments	8 093 8 5	6 344 15 1	11 662 11 2	19 240 10 0	13,002 4 4	16,858 1 7	7 184 10 2	16,310 10 10
10	Total outstanding (8 and 9)	34,787 11 8	25,112 11 8	32 900 9 10	30 801 3 7	64,378 0 7	62 059 4 4	37 422 14 0	40 171 15 4

42. The Bhadran Bank continued to be well-managed but its work did not show special progress owing to overstrictness in advancing loans. This in itself is indeed not a disqualification, but it unfortunately deterred some of the *bona fide* borrowers from taking advantage of the Bank. The result was a large cash balance lay idle. However, suggestions have been received for affording greater facilities so that *bona fide* borrowers may avail themselves adequately of this banking convenience.

Bhadran Bank.

43. The Amreli Bank was also doing fairly good business. Deposits in the Bank increased, showing that confidence in the Bank was being restored. There was however a large amount of loans given to individuals which has remained unpaid for a long time. Several suits had therefore to be filed. With the present directorate consisting of good business men, it is hoped that the Bank will now make advances on sound business lines. It undertook the liquidation of debts of some of the solvent members of the Fatehpur Co-operative Society and the large cash balances will be made available to other societies for similar purposes, since the practice of advancing loans to individual Khatedars has been put a stop to.

Amreli Bank

44. The Songhad Bank was in the process of reorganisation. All the outstanding loans were called in wherever possible and in other cases, fresh documents were made securing the loan. Nearly all the deposits have been returned and a new manager was advertised for to start the work again.

Songhad Bank

45. There is nothing special to report regarding the working of this Bank during the year, except that it continued to be well managed and on conservative lines.

Vyara Bank.

D.—Boiler Inspection.

46. The charge of Boiler Inspector was held by Mr. S. M. Dighe throughout the year under report. There were 175 factories in the State using 204 steam boilers during the year against 168 in the previous year. Out of the 204 boilers on the register, 11 were Government and 193 were private. Of the latter, 135 were in use from which fees were received. The income from fees, etc., came to Rs. 3,795 and the expenditure on the inspecting staff, etc., to Rs. 2,577. The corresponding figures on these items in the previous year were Rs. 3,030 and Rs. 2,358 respectively.

Number of Boilers, income and expenditure

There were no prosecutions nor were any accidents reported under the Boiler Act.

E.—Printing Press and Stationery.

47. During the year, printing for all the Departments of the State was done by the State Contractor at a total cost of Rs. 65,182 which, compared with the cost of the previous year, showed a decrease of Rs. 38,147. This decrease was due to the presentation by the contractor of a number of bills too late to enable their payment being made before the close of the year. Out of the total expenditure, Rs. 45,691 were incurred on paper and Rs. 19,491 on printing and binding.

Printing Press

During the year several new improvements were carried out in the Press. All the Balbodh types were renewed and some minor improvements were made in the machinery. The quality of the work improved considerably and the Administration and other special reports that were hitherto sent outside, were got printed by the contractor in his Press at Baroda.

48. The contract for the supply of stationery to the various offices in the State expired in the beginning of the year. Tenders were issued for giving a fresh contract but as the rates asked for were very exorbitant, it was decided to permit all offices to make their own arrangements for the purchase of stationery within their budgetted annual grants for contingencies.

Stationery.

F.—Miscellaneous.

49. During the year under report, the proposals submitted by the Department of Industries regarding redistribution of agricultural land were sent to a special committee for consideration; and the report of this committee was before Government for consideration. In view of the consideration of the whole subject by the Committee, the redistribution of land in the village of Ladol was postponed. Now that the Committee has supported this Department's recommendations, the Ladol survey will shortly be undertaken. All the preliminary data for the inquiry were collected during the year with the assistance of the Revenue Department.

Redistribution of Agricultural Land

50. Under orders of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, Mr. Nanavati conducted an inquiry into the existing conditions of guilds and crafts. He has also made a social and economic survey of two regiments of the Baroda Army, the report of which was under preparation. The question of old age pensions was another direction in which His Highness was interested, but the preliminary enquiries have disclosed that the idea is a little too premature. A report is however shortly expected disclosing the results of the investigation.

Special Inquiries

G.—Co-Operative Societies.

51. Mr. Manilal B. Nanavati continued to hold the office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies during the year.

Registrar.

(a) General.

52. The year under report was favourable for agriculture but, instead of expanding the co-operative movement, efforts were made to consolidate it and improve the working of the existing societies and weed out those that were feeble and inefficient. The number of societies at the beginning of the year was 323; and 27 new societies were organised in the year. Out of the total of 350 societies, 25 were cancelled or sent into liquidation, thus leaving 325 societies at the end of the year. Out of 325, two were Central Banks, two were Banking Unions, 286 were Agricultural Credit and 4 Agricultural Non-Credit and 31 were Non-Agricultural Societies.

Number of Societies

53. The total membership increased from 10,620 to 10,994; the working capital from Rs. 9,51,191 to Rs. 11,27,409 and the reserve fund from Rs. 98,591 to Rs. 1,35,504. The net profit earned was Rs. 40,203 against Rs. 39,576 in the previous year. There was a proportionate increase in the deposits received by the societies. At the beginning of the year they amounted to Rs. 3,19,375, while at the end of the year the sum amounted to Rs. 4,27,170. The average membership per society increased from 32·50 to 33·8, the working capital from Rs. 2,944 to Rs 3,469 and per member from Rs. 89 to Rs. 102. The total amount of loans made during the year was Rs. 7,74,381 against Rs. 6,32,915 in the preceding year. Out of Rs. 6,06,957 due at the end of the year Rs. 89,582 were overdue, most of which were from the Amreli District where the conditions are still unfavourable.

Membership and Financial position

(b) Central Banks and Banking Unions.

54. A Central Bank was organised for the Kadi District at Mehsana. The Baroda Central Bank will now confine its operations to the Baroda District. The Mehsana Bank was recently organised

Central Banks

and was collecting capital, while the Baroda Central Bank progressed satisfactorily as in the past. It financed societies by advancing Rs. 1,56,543 upto the end of the year. Its popularity with the investing public can be judged by the fact that it received more money than was necessary for its business. At the end of the year, the deposits amounted to Rs. 1,51,583. The Directors took much keener interest in the working of the primary societies affiliated to it.

Banking Unions

55 Of the two Banking Unions, the Naosari Union showed a slow progress The co-operative movement in the district was weak as conditions for the growth of the co-operative movement were unfavourable. It had 38 societies affiliated to it and had Rs. 9,805 in deposits. The Kodinar Union worked very satisfactorily. The year was good; all the loans were paid back and several feeble societies were reorganised.

(c) Agricultural Societies.

Number and condition of Agricultural societies

56. There were 290 Agricultural societies and they were distributed as under:-

District	1914-15	1915-16	1916-17.
Baroda	116	122	121
Kadi	50	60	64
Navsari	52	47	44
Amreli	68	66	61
Total	286	295	290

Out of the 290 Agricultural societies, 286 were Credit and 4 Non-credit societies

As mentioned above, the attention of the Registrar was concentrated upon the consolidation of the co-operative movement in the State rather than upon its expansion. All the societies that were weak and presented difficulties in the way of reorganisation were either cancelled or sent into liquidation and those requiring some stimulus were carefully inspected and their working was improved. In other words, during the year the co-operative movement acquired a good deal of solidarity.

(i) *Credit.*

57. *Baroda District.*—The Taluka of Padra was the most backward: most of the societies therein were organised at the early period of the movement and were financed by the State. As frequent attempts made to improve them were unavailing, 16 of the societies were sent into liquidation. The remaining are fairly good societies and capable of further improvement. The movement in the other talukas progressed fairly well. But it must be remarked that Bhadran topped them all with very good societies carefully managed and possessing large deposits from the public. Next was the Petlad Taluka; the new societies at Dharmaj and Bhurakoi disclosed a vigorous growth and have already set a good example to the neighbourhood.

58. *Kadi District.*—Fifteen new societies were organised in the district. Most of the societies were well managed, the co-operative spirit was also good and all of them showed a keen interest in the organisation of a Central Bank at Mehsana. The recoveries were satisfactory.

59. *Navsari District.*—The number of societies in this district was further reduced by 3. The district has not yet well responded to the co-operative idea. The cultivators of

the Rasti Mahals can get money very cheap, while the Rani Mahal people being yet too illiterate and backward are incapable of forming co-operative societies. However the existing societies were well managed and some of them can be looked upon as model ones.

60. *Amreli District.*—The number of societies in the district remained almost the same. But very good improvement was noticeable in the Kodinar Taluka. The year was good and the recoveries were very satisfactory; most of the arrears were cleared and in a good many societies all the best people from the villages were admitted. The Kodinar Union was able to put most of the societies on good basis. In the rest of the district, however, no special improvement except the clearing of most of the Government arrears could be noticeable; but with the assistance of the Honorary Organisers it is expected that all the backward societies will ere long be remodelled.

(ii) *Non-credit.*

Number and condition of Non-credit societies

61. This group included two milk supply and two irrigation societies. Both the Nizampura and the Sayajipura societies supplied 1,40,720 lbs. of milk to their consumers in the Baroda City and derived Rs. 1,225 as net profit. In the absence of a special staff that would keep strict supervision over the handling of milk and enforce sanitary precautions, it was not considered advisable to multiply their number.

Besides the Sarar Agricultural Society, a new one was started at Bhurakoi in Petlad for irrigation. The society has purchased an oil engine and a pump. A few more like societies could have been organised, but owing to the prohibitive prices of pumps and engines, the idea was postponed.

(*d*) Non-agricultural Societies.

Government Servants' societies

62. The number of Non-agricultural Societies rose from 25 to 31 and except 3, all of them were credit societies. Of the credit societies, 5 were Government Servants' societies, 12 were Weavers' societies, 3 were Chamars' societies and 8 were Urban societies Of the Government Servants' societies, the one at Baroda maintained its reputation for useful and progressive work The membership increased from 332 to 401, the working capital from Rs. 24,887 to Rs. 31,505 and the deposits from Rs. 19,465 to Rs. 25,300. All the loans were punctually paid without any default. The Judicial Department society also continued working on sound lines and showed good progress The membership increased from 110 to 119, the working capital from Rs. 7,323 to 9,632 and the deposits from Rs 5,865 to Rs. 7,675. The Government Servants' societies at Navsari, Amreli and Mehsana did work on a smaller basis

Urban Banks

63. Of the Urban Banks, the Mutual Help Society (Anyoanya Sahakari Mandali) showed satisfactory progress. Its membership increased from 2(0 to 249, the working capital from Rs. 42,905 to Rs. 57,226 and the deposits from Rs. 38,775 to Rs. 52,565. The Vaso Bank showed good development by being able to attract deposits. But the Baroda Society was not able to do any work.

Other Societies

64. The twelve Weavers' Societies did fairly good work and, as a result of the Demonstration classes, introduced the fly-shuttle looms. Next comes leather tanning, which is at present carried on by old methods. Three societies of these tanners (chamars) were organised at Pattan, Kadi and Chitroda. As mentioned elsewhere in this report, the question of engaging an expert tanner was under contemplation.

65. The Co-operative store is still in a moribund condition. Though it worked at a small profit during the year, there is a large amount of old debts yet to be recovered. The total sales during the year amounted to Rs 6,494* against Rs. 5,816 in the previous year.

The Co-operative Store

66. For want of adequate support from the village milk supply societies, the milk store at Baroda was working under very great disadvantages It had to depend upon several small dealers and cultivators for milk, greatly hindering thereby its work. The whole question of improving the milk supply is before the Registrar and some solution is likely to be soon arrived at to develop this important form of co-operative activity.

Co-operative Milk Store

(e) MISCELLANEOUS

67. Several Taluka Conferences were held during the year at Sidhpur, Kalol, Kodinar, etc. Besides this, a new departure was made this year in holding a small conference of a group of societies in a single neighbourhood. These meetings were attended by the Registrar and the Assistant Registrar and by most of the members of the societies in the particular group. The discussions were very fruitful and more members were approached than could be otherwise done.

Conferences

68. A fortnight's Co-operative Training class was opened at Baroda in the month of September and was attended by the members of the Co-operative Department, managers of Banks and Unions a few honorary organisers and by secretaries of some societies. Altogether about 45 men were present. The classes were taken every morning by the Registrar and his Assistant. As these lectures were of great use, they will be systematically organised from the next year.

Co-operative Training Class

69. The Quarterly Journal bearing the title of "Kheti and Sahakarya" (Agriculture and Co-operation) continued to be published by the Co-operative Department and several leaflets and pamphlets were published for the information and guidance of Societies and the general public

The Quarterly

H. --Forests.

(a) Constitution of State Forests.

(1) *Alteration in Area.*

70. The changes undergone in the forest areas are shown in the following statement; there was a net reduction of 560 Bighas in the area of reserved forests in consequence of rectification in the records due to results of traverse survey in the Mahua Range. Protected forests have been constituted for the first time by putting some of the waste lands in the Kadi District under forest conservancy and for their management a new Forest Range known as the Atarsumba Range was created during the year.

Area of Forests

Item.	Area on 1st August 1916	Added during the year.	Excluded or transferred during the year	Area on 31st July 1917.
1	2	3	4	5
	Bighas.	Bighas	Bighas.	Bighas.
Reserved forests	6,87,565	46	606	6,87,005
Protected forests		5,367		5,367
Total ..	6,87,565	5,413	606	6,92,372 =635·8 sq.miles

(2) *Forest Settlement.*

New Forest Range of Atarsumba.

71. A total area of 5,367 Bighas equivalent to 3,154 acres situated along the banks of the Vatrak in Atarsumba Petamahal was marked off and constituted as a protected forest area by a Naib Subha in concert with an Assistant Conservator of Forests. The Conservator had submitted proposals for bringing under forest conservancy large areas from out of extensive waste lands all over the vast Kadi District, but Government did not sanction such a large scheme all at once. It is a great desideratum to have small fuel and fodder reserves generally all over the Kadi District, which has suffered badly since the great famine of the year 1900 A.D. by the denudation of trees and ligneous vegetation that took place about that period. It is the desire of His Highness the Maharaja that there should be village forests in this dry belt of country, generally well diffused; but it is a matter which must wait until some experience is gained of the working of the Atarsumba Range.

Reboisement of waste lands at Okha

72. The Conservator went over the Okhamandal Mahal along the Gulf of Cutch in the northernmost portion of Kathiawar with a view to report on the suitability of the large areas of bare waste lands for purpose of reboisement. His proposal to constitute 45,983 Bighas of such lands as forests has met with the approval of the Revenue Department and a detailed scheme of afforestation has come up for sanction of Government

(3) *Demarcation.*

Demarcation

73. There was no specific work left to be done under this head, except the demarcation of the boundaries in the densely wooded and valuable forests of Nanchhal and Vajpur tracts on the borders of the Sagbara State.

(b) Management of State Forests.

Working Plans of Sadadwel and Vankal

74. The working Plan Reports for Sadadwel and Vankal Ranges (exclusive of Umerpada, better known as the Nanchhal tracts) were sanctioned by Government during the year. The plans were already under provisional working in the preceding two years on the system of coppice with a reservation of standards upto 23 trees per Bigha or about 40 trees per acre, wherever so much heavy stock was available for being left intact from cutting till the next rotation.

Working plans of Songadh.

75. The Report for the Songadh Range was submitted to Government during the year for their approval. The important forests involved in this plan are those known as the Nessu tracts, an area of about 106 square miles comprised between the courses of the Tapti and the Nessu rivers Their opening up by a net work of roads has enhanced their value very considerably and has proved that judicious outlay on forest communications and on forest buildings to house the forest staff and keep them in health in the notoriously unhealthy climate is remunerative to the State.

Scheme of improvemental fellings.

76. A scheme of undertaking improvemental fellings limited to the cutting and removal of over-mature, dead, dying, and diseased trees (teak above 24 inches in girth and other commercial species such as Sadra, Sisso, Khair, &c., above 36 inches) has been devised to be spread over the whole area in Vajpur and Nanchhal in 20 years respectively.

Gir Forests

77. One block of 6,505 bighas in the distant Gir Forests was taken in hand during the year and broken up into 40 compartments and one of these was marked off for fellings on the method of coppice with reserved standards. This plan too has succeeded well so far as an experimental measure, owing to the great demand

for firewood in the treeless country of Kathiawar. It will be extended hereafter; and after some experience is gained a suitable Working Plan will be drawn up for the Gir Forests generally.

Sankheda Range.

78. In the Sankheda Range, the whole forest area of 12,536 Bighas was differentiated into forest blocks, and a coupe appertaining to each has been brought under exploitation during these three years. Its Working Plan Report could not unfortunately be drawn up as yet.

(c) COMMUNICATIONS AND BUILDINGS.

Special Forest Sub-division.

79. The special forest works in accordance with a comprehensive programme originally sanctioned by Government were under execution under the supervision of an Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department specially detailed to these duties. Although he was working under the orders of the Executive Engineer, Naosari District, his operations were supervised by the Conservator.

Road projects nearly completed.

80. Practically all the road projects have been completed, with the exception of the Khant Umarpada hill road, which will facilitate on its completion the export of forest produce from the densely wooded tracts of Nanchhal.

Progress of Forest Buildings.

81. Under buildings, the erection of forest bungalows or rest houses was noteworthy for their rapid progress, especially in the distant and sparsely populated unhealthy Nanchhal region. These rest houses generally facilitate the touring of superior officers.

Construction of new forest posts, etc.

82. During the year new forest posts were sanctioned to be constructed at Tokerwa, Jamli and Tavlibari in the Songadh and Vajpur Jungles, while the project of a road from

Vaghamba to Salher was given up owing to its great cost estimated at Rs. 20,000 being out of proportion to its utility. The Medha Dholan plateau hill road was likewise abandoned for similar reasons.

Expenditure on Forest Works.

83. The expenditure hitherto incurred on forest works in the Naosari Prant as well as that yet to be incurred is shown in the following statement :—

Nature of work	Past expenditure.	Expenditure during the year 1916–17.	Amount remaining to be expended	Probable expenditure during the year 1917–18
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
Roads .	25,171	5,795	18,765	5,800
Buildings .	1,45,922	71,048	95,926	65,000
Wells .	10,325	4,737	5,622	3,800
Total .	1,81,418	81,580	1,20,313	74,600

Forest buildings in Gir Range.

84. In the Gir Range of Amreli District the following forest buildings were completed during the year at costs shown against each :—

Locality	Nature of building	Amount expended
		Rs
Sarshia	Range Office	13,426
Borala	Forest Post	2,269
Karamdadi .	Do	2,563
Bhania	Do	3,514
Dalkhania	Do	3,190
Ghatwad	Do.	3,501

(d) Protection of Forests.

(1) *General Protection.*

85. The total number of forest offences detected was 122 as against 250 in the preceding year :—

Forest Offences.

Year.	Offences relating to			Miscellaneous offences	Total.
	Forest produce	Grazing	Fire.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1916-17	60	26	25	11	122
1915-16	138	37	33	42	250

This heavy reduction in the total number of offences was apparently due to the deterrent effect produced by the campaign of criminal prosecutions of the previous years.

(2) *Protection from Fire.*

86. Forest protection unlike the previous year was eminently successful, as the total area burnt during the year was only 5,666 Bighas against 68,293 Bighas in 1915-16, while the total number of fires fell from 33 to 25. The forests of Nanchhal and Vajpur were disastrously swept over by fires which had their origin in the adjoining border of Sagbara State in the preceding year. To prevent a similar recurrence, special precautions were taken and the two Range Forest Officers of Vajpur and Vankal as well as the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Songhad Division, were required to be on the spot about the time of the Holi holidays, when incendiarism is indulged in by the local hill tribes. The internal fire lines also were burnt on a more extensive scale than before as an additional measure of safety.

Successful fire conservancy

87. By an understanding with the Divisional Forest Officer, West Khandesh, fire lines on the frontier between Karod and Deomogra reserves were taken out in respective jurisdictions over a wider strip than before, so as to minimize any chance of a fire starting in one limit crossing over into the adjoining one. The attention of the Dang authorities was also drawn to the careless manner in which their guards were burning fire paths with the result that it was arranged that such operations should be conducted after giving due notice to our men so as to enable them to be present and to watch the frontier. The Gir Forests in Kathiawar also continued to be well protected against fires, which used generally to rage there before.

Some steps for conservancy.

88. The total expenditure incurred during the year on burning fire lines, entertaining fire-watchers, etc., amounted to Rs. 3,471.

Expenditure.

(3) *Protection from Cattle.*

89. The revenue derived from the levy of grazing fees is shown in the following comparative statement :—

Grazing fees.

Year	Baroda and Naosari.	Kadi.	Amreli.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
1916-17 . ..	20,465	604	20,471	41,541
1915-16 . ..	22,539	...	15,130	37,669
1914-15 . .	15,350	....	6,941	22,291

90. Hitherto the Revenue and Forest Departments used to collect grazing fees for their respective waste lands independently of each other. The grazing rights for revenue lands were generally purchased by some influential local residents with the view of making heavy exactions from the villagers, who had to pass through the revenue waste areas to avail themselves of the forest pastures. To prevent this hardship the grazing rights for forest and revenue waste lands were amalgamated and a single pass is now issued by the Forest Department.

Grazing in forest and revenue waste lands.

(4) *Protection against Injury from Natural Causes.*

91. An expenditure of Rs. 232 as against Rs. 196 last year was made to rid the forests of harmful and large creepers in all the ranges. The operations were carried out systematically under a rough plan for each range.

Removal of harmful creepers.

(e) SYLVICULTURE.

92. The seeding of teak and other trees, though not profuse, was fairly good. A peculiar feature of the rainfall was that during the month of May 1917, there were several heavy showers and grass had cropped up very early in the forests of Naosari Prant. This must have had good effect on the young sprouting forest seedlings. Regeneration from coppice shoots in exploited coupes was generally everywhere very vigorous and successful and this was supplemented in the exploited coupes by the dibbling of seeds, under shelter of bushes and trees, of the more valuable species according to the varying requirements of each locality.

Seeding of teak and other trees.

93. A few temporary nurseries, like the one at Songadh, were opened during the year in several places such as Lachras in Sankheda,

Nurseries.

Vaghjipura in Atarsumba and other places. Teak seeds were germinated on "Ottas" or raised beds according to the Burman method in numerous convenient localities near wells and forest posts and they provided a lot of seedlings for the adjoining forest coupes. In the Gir Range forests, mowra seeds sent out from Naosari Prant have sprouted and the young plants were thriving in Sarshia and Semardi; similarly Anjan was thriving near Sapnes. The mowra tree has a great future owing to the recent discovery of preparing acetone from its flowers which is used as an explosive and motor spirit. The outlay of money under the head of plantations and cultural operations aggregated to Rs. 107 during the year.

Seeds of Sandalwood and Anjan, etc

94. Seeds of sandalwood were imported from Mysore and of Anjan (*Hardwikia binata*) from North Khandesh. The former did not germinate in the nursery at Lachras in Sankheda, but the latter have sprouted and having grown up into seedlings of fair size, they were transferred to Songadh forests. Grafts of 'Alphonso' and 'Payri' varieties of the mango were procured from a garden near Bhayndar in Salsette (Bombay) and planted in the compounds of forest buildings in Vajpur, Songadh and Vyara Ranges.

Lac culture

95. The culture of lac on Palas (*Butea frondosa*) trees was strenuously extended and met with much success. The number of trees inoculated in different ranges was 3,21,741 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,707. The price of lac has gone up tremendously owing to the War from about Rs. 4 to Rs. 15 per maund of 40 lbs. and a substantial revenue amounting to Rs. 14,240 was derived from this source. The dearth of labour, however, imposes a limit to further propagation of lac. The idea of introducing lac in our forests was brought by His Highness from his personal observations in the Rewa State while on a shooting trip to the jungles some years back.

(*f*) Exploitation.

Coppice with standards—the principal method

96. Coppice with standards has been the principal method adopted for the exploitation of forests under the regular working plans now applied to nearly all the ranges. Apart from its intrinsic scientific merit as a step towards gradual transformation into high forest for production of large timber, it has been found to be eminently suited for distribution of timber and firewood locally and for trade requirements for export.

Revenue from coupes.

97. The number of coupes exploited with their areas and sale realizations are specified in detail in the table below :—

Range.	No of coupes	Aggregate area in Bighas	Total realization.	Average realization per Bigha.
1	2	3	4	5
			Rs.	Rs. a p.
Vyara	13	1,650	20,774	12 9 5
Mahua	6	751	13,168	17 8 6
Sadadwel	18	2,236	29,901	13 5 0
Vankal	8	545	1,015	1 13 9
Songhad	23	4,333	36,047	8 5 1
Sankheda	4	405	716	1 12 3
Total .	72	9,920	1,01,621	10 3 11

Revenue from bamboos.

98. Bamboos, removed on permits, form a very large and important source of revenue and Rs. 48,214 were derived therefrom as compared to Rs. 34,951 in the year 1915-16.

Revenue from other sources.

99. Other important articles of forest produce realized amounts as shown in the subjoined statement :—

Forest produce.	1915-16	1916-17.
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
Lac	4,602	14,240
Mowra flowers	1,325	1,305
Mowra seeds	810	425
Rosha	.	...
Asintra	503	1,251
Timru	441	969
Total	7,681	18,190

The removal of produce on permits taken out at the several forest depôts brought in the following receipts :—

Teak.	Firewood.	Bamboo.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
1,094	502	48,182	47,946	97,727

The land assessment collected for 104 villages in charge of the Forest Department was Rs. 16,063.

(g) FINANCIAL RESULTS.

Financial results.

100. The financial results of the year compared with those of 1915-16 were as follows :—

Item	1916-17.	1915-16.
	Rs	Rs.
Revenue ..	2,47,966	1,92,026
Expenditure	85,111	78,696
Surplus . .	1,62,855	1,13,330

The gross receipts showed an increase of Rs. 55,940 while the net revenue was better by Rs. 49,525. These results were brought about by a rise under all the principal heads of revenue. The expansion and development of Working Plans combined with improvement in prices for forest coupes (Rs. 51,441), larger exploitations of bamboos by Rs. 13,263 and augmentation of grazing revenue, especially in the Gir Range, by Rs. 3,872 as well as larger receipts derived from sale of lac by Rs. 9,960 have contributed principally to the successful financial results.

Benefits from good roads.

101. It may incidentally be noted here that the large capital outlay of three lakhs of rupees incurred these few years on roads and buildings in opening up the remote and unhealthy jungle tracts is attracting timber merchants from outside the State and thus stimulating competition in the auction bids.

(*h*) ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel

102. Mr. R. H. Madan continued to be the Conservator of Forests and he was helped in the administration by two assistants, Messrs. G. V. Sarangpàni and C. D. Warden, B.A. The latter officer who had joined as a probationer in the preceding year was confirmed as an additional Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Forest class

103. The forest class for training foresters for technical duties, which was conducted by Mr. Warden at Baroda, resulted in turning out 11 qualified subordinates. Men of this class who do specially well in practical work are selected to hold the less important ranges as Dehra Dun trained hands are not available in sufficient number, that institution having again expressed its inability to take up a Baroda student for training.

CHAPTER VII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

A.—Public Works Branch.

(*a*) ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL.

Personnel

1. During the whole of the year Mr. V. R. Akolker acted as Chief Engineer, while Mr. A. H. Coyle who returned from leave on 31st August worked as Chief Architect and Chairman of the City Improvement Trust. The duties of these two officers were defined by a separate order by which Mr. Coyle was placed in charge of the Electrical and Garden Departments, the State Furniture Works and architectural and archæological buildings in the State; Mr. Akolker controlled the Irrigation Department with the assistance of the Irrigation Engineer and looked to all public works under the head of "Roads and Buildings" in the State except those that were entrusted to the Chief Architect. Mr. Raojibhai M. Patel combined the functions of Irrigation Engineer and Superintending Engineer throughout the year with enhanced powers of inspecting the Divisional Offices.

Organization.

2. At the commencement of the year, the Public Works Department comprised of eight Executive Divisions, *viz.*, the City, the Palace, Baroda, Kadi, Naosari and Amreli Districts, and the Garden and the Electric. Out of these, the Palace Division was amalgamated with the City Division from 1st May 1917 under orders of Government. All these divisions were conjointly directed by the Chief Engineer and the Chief Architect in

conformity with the distribution of duties noted above. Besides these, the Works Branch, under Mr. R. W. Watson, was directly under the control of the Chief Architect.

Important events of the year

3. Amongst the notable features of the year may be mentioned the opening of the New General Hospital at Baroda at the hands of H. E. Lord Willingdon, the Governor of Bombay, on 23rd February 1917. Another event was the loan of the Jaya Mahal Palace in Bombay to the British Government for use as Military Hospital for Officers. The third notable event was the partial amalgamation of the Local Boards and Public Works subordinate establishments in the Naosari District as a tentative measure. Under this scheme which came into effect from 1st January 1917, some of the P. W. Works, *viz.*, roads, Police Chowkies, Abkari Chowkies and Village Schools were handed over to the Local Boards for execution, the necessary funds being transferred from the P. W. Budget to the Local Boards. The total amount thus transferred was Rs. 14,047 and the number of works 34. Of the eight Taluka Local Boards in that district, only three took a loan of P. W. Overseers, while the remaining five continued to work with their old hands. This amalgamation scheme is yet in a state of infancy and will be tried in Baroda and Naosari Districts in the next official year on a more extended scale and under one Overseer or one Supervisor for joint execution of P. W. and Local Board Works in each taluka.

Revision of P. W. Code.

4. The P. W. Code which was revised last year has received the sanction of Government.

Works of the year.

5. The following works were either completed or in progress during the year under report.

(b) BUILDINGS.

City Division.

Works completed.

(1) Repairs to Mr. Ghadiali's House to convert it into a school-house.

(2) Providing fire-extinguishers in several Government buildings in the City.

(3) Stone-flooring under the Mandvi Building.

(4) Constructing the Science School Laboratory in the College compound.

(5) Service Gate-lodges to the compound wall of the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

(6) Unclimbable railing from Vishwamitri corner to the Laxmi Vilas Palace gate at the Vishwamitri station.

(7) Additions to Electric Light Engine House at the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

(8) Additions and alterations to Mane's Wada in Fatehpura.

(9) Construction of a Maistry's workshop in the College compound.

Works in progress.

(1) The Male Training College.

(2) Compound wall and wrought iron railing to the Laxmi Vilas Palace compound on the side facing the Indira Avenue.

(3) Nurses' quarters in the C. D. Hospital.

(4) The proposed new hospital above plinth.

(5) Entrance gate to the Laxmi Vilas Palace compound.

(6) The new Kalabhavan Building above ground level.

(7) Hot water fittings to the Lal Bag Palace.

(8) A new block in the Lunatic Asylum.

(9) Thorough repairs to the Kothar Chowk in old Sarkarwada.

(10) Ganjkhana Police Lines.

(11) North wing to the present Kothi buildings.

(12) Mansion for Maharaj-Kumar Jaisinh Rao.

(13) Thorough repairs to Police Line No. 21 at Bhutadi Zampa.

(14) Thorough repairs to Nimbalkar's Wada.

Palace Division.

Works completed

(1) Re-arrangement of kitchen and store at Laxmi Vilas Palace.

(2) A motor car shed for eight motors in the new stables.

(3) Urgent repairs to the Sepoys' line No. 20 in the Second Lancers.

(4) Thorough repairs to line No. 17 in the Third Cavalry.

(5) Urgent repairs to the Sepoys' line No. 1 in the Second Regiment.

(6) Thorough repairs to line No. 3 in the Third Regiment.

(7) Extension of motor-car shed and office block for motor drivers in the stables.

(8) Repairs to the central block No. 4 in the Second Cavalry.

Works in progress.

(1) Sanitary alterations at the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

(2) Thorough repairs to line No. 6 in the First Cavalry.

(3) Additions and alterations for accommodation of Maharaj-Kumar Shivajirao in Chimanbag Bungalow.

(4) Necessary additions to the Bungalow No. 6 of the Minister.

(5) Additions and alterations to the burnt portion of the Atasbaji Karkhana.

(6) Providing sanitary fittings and drainage connections and hot water fittings at Chimanbag.

(7) Stables for six horses and carriages in the Indian guest house.

(8) Constructing a butcher's shed at the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

(9) Additions and alterations to Her Highness' bed-room on the second floor in the old Palace at Makarpura.

Electric Division.

Works in progress.

(1) General scheme for supplying electricity to the City.

(2) Providing electric installation at the Lalbag Palace.

(3) Providing electric lights and fans in the Chimanbag Bungalow.

(4) Providing electric lights and fans at the Countess of Dufferin Hospital.

(5) Wiring Government buildings for lights and fans.

(6) Providing electric installation at the General Hospital.

(7) Rewiring and connecting Motibag Bungalow to the supply system.

(8) Erection of plant at the Steam Laundry.

(9) Providing sub-station plant at the Lalbag Palace.

Baroda Division.

Works completed.

(1) A village school for 90 boys at Phinav.

(2) Do. do. at Wadhwana.

(3) Do. do. at Lingthali.

(4) Do. do. at Simli.

(5) Do. do. at Habhipura.

(6) Do. do. at Vadaj.

(7) Do. do. at Zanzad.

(8) The A.-V. School at Bhadran.

(9) The Girls' School at Bhadran.

(10) The Police Thana at Vanchhara.

(11) The Munsiff's Court at Karjan.

(12) The Vahiwatdar's Cutcherry at Waghodia.

(13) Repairs to the Police Lines at Sankheda.

(14) Vahiwatdar's bungalow at Vaghodia.

(15) A school for 120 boys and 90 Antyaj boys at Anastu.

(16) Additions and alterations to the old Police lines at Vaghodia.

(17) Repairs to the Karkoons' chawl at Karjan.

(18) Additions and alterations to the old Ice Factory at Baroda for the reformatory for boys.

Works in progress.

(1) A village school for 90 boys at Anguthan.
(2) Do. for 160 boys at Sarsavni.
(3) Do. for 120 boys at Muwal.
(4) Do. for 150 boys at Bamangam.
(5) Do. for 90 boys at Bithali.
(6) Do. for 160 boys at Sadhli.
(7) Do. for 90 boys at Manjrol.
(8) Do. for 120 boys at Kukas.
(9) Do. for 120 boys at Mindhol.
(10) Do. for 120 boys at Timberwa.
(11) The A.-V. School for 100 boys at Sankheda.
(12) The Abkari Depôt with quarters at Dabhoi.
(13) The Abkari Thana at Sandasal.
(14) The Police Thana and barracks at Piploi.

Kadi Division.

Works completed.

(1) A village school for 150 boys at Manknaj.
(2) Do. for 90 boys at Khara.
(3) Do. for 90 boys at Mesar.
(4) Do. for 300 girls at Vijapur.
(5) Police lines at Sidhpur.
(6) Rest-house at Visnagar.
(7) Abkari Chowki at Fichadi.
(8) Special and ordinary repairs to the Vahiwatdar's Cutcherry at Chanasma.

Works in progress.

(1) The A.-V. school for 125 boys at Unza.
(2) Do. for 120 boys at Kalol.
(3) A village school for 150 boys at Dangarva.
(4) Do. for 90 boys at Ubkhal.
(5) Do. for 90 boys at Chandrasan.
(6) Do. for 70 boys at Zindwa.
(7) Do. for 90 boys at Ambvel.
(8) The Police Divisional Office at Mehsana with connected works
(9) The Police Lines at Visnagar.
(10) The Munsiff's Court at Chanasma.
(11) A rest-house at Kheralu with out-houses and wire-fencing to the compound.
(12) The Abkari Police Chowki at Malsand.
(13) The Abkari Depôt with out-houses at Dehgam.
(14) The Munsiff's Court with out-houses at Kalol.
(15) The Kilachand Devchand Maternity Hospital at Pattan.
(16) Additions and alterations to the front portion of the Vahiwatdar's Cutcherry at Chanasma.
(17) Thorough repairs to the Sarkarwada building at Kadi.

Naosari Division.

Works completed.

(1) A village school at Vesma
(2) Do. at Ena.
(3) Do. at Umbhel.
(4) Do. at Dolwan.
(5) Do. at Dosuwada.

(6) The Police lines at Gandevi.

(7) A rest-house at Kathore.

Works in progress.

(1) A Dharmashala at Zankhwav.

(2) The Police Thana at Anaval.

(3) Special repairs to the new public offices at Naosari.

(4) Special repairs to the Dhadaka Bungalow at Naosari.

(5) Government office buildings, etc., at Mangrol.

Amreli Division.

Works completed.

(1) Forest buildings at Sarasia, Karamdadi, Borala, Dalkhania, Bhania and Ghatwad.

(2) Jakat Nakas at Rajpura and Sangankotda.

(3) Fixing signal and boundary posts on the islets near Beyt.

Works in progress.

(1) A village school for 100 boys at Arnej.

(2) Jakat Nakas at Beyt, Pedhawada and Dolasa.

(*c*) ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

City Division.

Works in progress.

(1) Diversion of the road from Kothi to Laxmi Vilas Palace.

Baroda Division.

Works completed.

(1) A metalled road from Waghodia Railway Station to the town.

(2) The Miayagam-Karjan road.

Works in progress.

(1) A metalled road from Baroda to Chhani.

(2) Thorough repairs to the portion of one mile of the Baroda-Amaliara road.

(3) A road from Savli Railway Station to the town.

Kadi Division.

Works completed.

(1) A road from the public offices to the Police Head Quarters at Mehsana.

(2) A kunker road from Bechraji Railway Station to Mata's temple.

Works in progress.

(1) A road from Unza Railway Station to Unava.

(2) Repairing and metalling the road from Chiloda to Dassela (Baroda Territory) being a portion of the Sadra-Dabhoda road.

Naosari Division.

Works in progress.

(1) A road from Zankhvav Railway Station to the village of Balethi.

(2) A road from Kamrej to Chalthan.

(3) Thorough repairs to the Vyara-Unai road.

Amreli Division.

Works completed.

(1) A road from Dhari Railway Station to the town.

Works in progress.

(1) The Damnagar-Dhamel road.

(2) The Dhari-Ghadiachavand road.

(*d*) ELECTRIC INSTALLATION.

Maintenance of Electric Installation

6. The electric installations at the Laxmi Vilas and Makarpura Palaces in Baroda, the Jaya Mahal in Bombay, the Woodstock property in Ootacamund, the Motibag bungalow, the Government offices and bungalows and other installations together with the Telephone Exchange were satisfactorily maintained during the year. The total consumption of energy aggregated to 4,30,900 units.

The Central Station and financial results of the year

7. The Central Station has now been fitted with one Diesel Engine set, which together with the old and somewhat worn out steam plant has to cope with the large output. The purchase of a second Diesel Engine has been sanctioned, but it could not be procured owing to the world War. In spite of this want, the year's operations were quite favourable from a financial point of view. The gross profits amounted to Rs. 26,603 and carrying a sum of Rs. 6,000 towards depreciation, the net profit earned could be reckoned at Rs. 20,603 representing an interest at the rate of 5·15 per cent. on the capital outlay. The receipts from the sale of current and other sources excluding the Palaces and the connected residences amounted to Rs. 25,278 against Rs. 31,220 of the previous year.

Amount of new load added.

8. For want of a second Diesel Engine necessary to complete the installation, the Department was obliged to restrict the number of new connections to private premises; despite these restrictions, a new load of 1,95,606 K. W. was added.

which was more than last year by 80 K. W. The total load now connected to the supply system amounted to 8,432 lights, 458 fans, 15 motors, aggregating to 207 H. P.

Telephone Service

9. There were four new telephone instruments connected to the Central Exchange during the year. The number of calls through the Central and Sub-Exchanges amounted to 2,19,600 during the year averaging about 610 calls per day.

(*e*) STATE GARDENS.

Laxmi Vilas Palace Garden

10. The Laxmi Vilas Palace Garden was satisfactorily maintained during. the year. Two new Tennis Courts were added, making in all 5 of cement and one of kunker. To obviate the glare without impairing visibility, the courts have been provided with 'dosuti' cloth curtains. Sunk enclosures have been constructed for the deer which are now seen in a more natural state than within an enclosure of fences. The riding road was extended from Vishrambag Gate to the Main Gate with plantation of trees on both sides. To save the pressure on the City water-supply, an electric motor pump has been installed on the Navlakhi well near the Carriage Waiting Yard.

Her Highness' Garden.

11. Her Highness' Garden was maintained satisfactorily during the year; new varieties of fruit-trees and choice vegetables were planted.

Lal Bag Palace Garden.

12. The garden round the Lal Bag Palace was not completed and operations were in progress for laying out the same. During the year, the work of landscape gardening was continued and the whole compound was dressed up to proper levels and slopes to prevent water-logging. Some lawns and paths with ornamental beds and plantations of annuals

have been added. Thus the grounds now present an improved appearance.

Makarpura Garden.

13. The Makarpura Garden with the paths and lawns, etc., was also carefully maintained and the animals and birds were properly cared for.

Public Park

14. The Public Park which has become more popular as a resort for evening and morning recreation was satisfactorily kept up during the year. A new rabbit run has been added and necessary repairs to roads, lawns, the band-stand and the Garden Superintendent's Office were carefully carried out.

Arboretum.

15. The nursery of the arboretum was well stacked with indigenous plants.

Jubilee Garden

16. The Jubilee Garden was the favourite resort of the people in the heart of the City quite near their homes. It was maintained satisfactorily during the year and a new compound wall and railing was added on the eastern side.

Jaya Mahal Palace

17. The Jaya Mahal in Bombay was placed at the disposal of the Bombay Government for use as Hospital for Military Officers and certain alterations were carried out to meet the medical requirements. Stone preservatives were applied to stone work with good results and steps were taken to stop leakage in the tower by putting up lead sheeting over the projecting windows.

Woodstock property.

18. The Woodstock, the Jaising Villa and the other buildings at Ootacamund were properly maintained by carrying out necessary repairs and oil painting. A new tea

pavilion has been added supplying a long-felt want. The garden with lawns and baths were kept in good order.

Other minor gardens.

19. Other minor gardens at Baroda, as well as in the mofussil, were also carefully looked after.

Expenditure of the year.

20. The total expenditure of the Garden Division came to Rs. 3,99,501, of which Rs. 2,07,030 were spent on garden works proper and Rs. 1,92,471 on the maintenance of buildings in charge of the division.

(f) IRRIGATION.

Total outlay on Irrigation

21. The total outlay on irrigation and water works was Rs. 55,67,449 upto the end of the year.

No new large works undertaken

22. No large irrigation work was newly undertaken during the year, as the Government has laid down that such big works should not be undertaken until the existing ones are rectified and put into proper working order.

Projects prepared by Irrigation Engineer

23. The Irrigation Engineer continued to prepare projects for irrigation, drainage and water works, with the help of a Project Establishment employed in the four divisions and to supervise the works that were executed by the Divisional Executive Engineers.

Irrigation works completed or in progress.

24. During the year under report, the following irrigation works of importance were either completed or in progress :—

BARODA DISTRICT.

(1) The Dhanora and Sipore Timbi tanks were completed. The dam of the Wadhwana tank

showed signs of a breach near the sluice, but it was prevented by timely repairs to the earthwork as well as to the sluice. The work of improving the Karachia tank was in progress.

KADI DIVISION.

(2) Repairs to the Anawada weir on the Saraswati River and to the dam of the Khokhala Tank were in progress.

NAOSARI DIVISION.

(3) The Tichakia canals were in progress and nearly brought to completion. Irrigation from Dosuwada tank was in progress.

AMRELI DIVISION.

(4) The work in connection with the restoration and improvement of the Thebi River bund and the canal at Amreli was taken in hand and the improvement of the Mota Bhandaria and the Pichvi tanks was in progress.

Area of land irrigated and revenue derived

25. Several other minor works were also either completed or in progress during the year under report. They provided water for irrigating more than 14,420 Bighas of land. The revenue derived was Rs. 26,486 besides certain dues in the shape of Himayat. The expenditure incurred for irrigation works alone was Rs. 2,07,048 during the year.

(*g*) WATER WORKS.

Transfer of Baroda Water Works.

26. The Baroda Water Works were in charge of the Public Works Department till the 16th of October 1916, when all control over works within the Municipal limits was

transferred to the Baroda City Municipality, the Public Works Department retaining its supervision over the head works at Ajwa and the filter beds at Nimetha

Restricted service of water.

27. Owing to scanty rains, the supply of water in the tank was not equal to the increasing demand for household purposes, Military services, trades, gardens and sewage in the city, the hours of service were therefore limited to 8 per day without causing inconvenience to the public. This enabled the Department to maintain the quality of water by proper filtration and saved a stress during the summer months.

Maintenance of Ajwa-Nimetha works.

28. The Ajwa and Nimetha works were respectively maintained at a cost of Rs. 3,651 and Rs. 7,896 during the year

Supply of Ajwa water to the Village of Raval

29. The work of supplying water to the Raval village from the Sayaji Sarovar was completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,553 against a sanction of Rs. 3,738.

Boring at Nimetha

30. The work of a second bore at Nimetha was stopped for want of rods strong enough for deeper boring.

Water Works in Baroda District

31. In the Baroda District, the Sinore, Sankheda and Bhadran Water Works were looked after and maintained at the expense of the respective Municipalities. The Sojitra Water Works were completed during the year.

In Kadi District.

32. In the Kadi Division, the Water Works at Pattan were maintained at the cost of the Municipality. A deep bore was made at Mehsana and found to yield an adequate supply of potable water. A similar bore at Visnagar was in progress during the year and it promised to give good results.

33. In the Naosari District, the water works at Kathor were completed and maintained at the cost of the Municipality. A well has been sunk for the Gandevi Water Works, but the remaining work has been held over till the close of the War. The Vyara Water Works sanctioned during the last year were under construction. The second bore at Naosari was completed on 1st September 1916, and both the bores together were found to yield an adequate supply of potable water. The project for town supply was accordingly revised and sent to the Municipality for their approval.

In Navsari District

34. In the Amreli Division, the question of water supply for Amreli town was under consideration. The inflow of the Tarwadi well at Amreli being inadequate, it was decided to make a trial bore. The Dwarka town water supply project was also awaiting its turn for deep boring.

In Amreli District

(*h*) Field Drainage.

35. In the Baroda District, the work of field drainage in Karjan and Sinore Talukas was in progress 22·32 miles were completed and 17·99 miles in progress.

Field drains in Baroda District.

36. In the Kadi District, the field drainage to protect the Maharajpura village was taken in hand and a protective work for Sangthala village was likewise in progress.

In Kadi District

(*i*) Forest Works.

37. To improve the Rani Mahals in Naosari and to facilitate the traffic of timber, Government sanctioned a programme of forest roads and buildings at a cost of Rs. 4,00,000, of which buildings and roads costing Rs. 2,87,134

Naosari Forest Works.

were completed upto the close of the year, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 97,734. With experience, the initial difficulties of forest works have considerably disappeared and the programme will reach completion before long.

(j) State Furniture Works.

Work done and profit earned by the furniture works

38. During the year, the Factory turned out articles worth about Rs. 45,000 The gross profit of about Rs. 6,500 earned by the Factory, excluding the expenses incurred on establishment, was utilized towards the payment of interest on the working capital, depreciation, etc., leaving a net profit of 8¾ per cent to the Factory. This figure is less than that of the last year, which was 11¼, owing to the general rise in the prices of materials required for the manufacture of furniture

(k) The Works Branch.

Organization of the Works Branch

39. The Works Branch under Mr. Watson carried out the work of sanitary fittings in the Palaces and painting and plumbing in all the important buildings at Baroda under the direction of the Chief Architect. Mr. Watson has been given the powers of an Executive Engineer regarding purchase of materials, etc., for works under him, and designated "Superintendent, Works Branch." He has under him one assistant, two Sanitary Overseers and three apprentices. The number of works under Mr. Watson was on an average 40 per month, while the number of labourers on daily muster roll averaged to about 120.

Works done by the Works Branch.

40. During the five years from 1912 when this branch was created, it has carried out works costing over Rs. 2,00,000, of which Rs. 95,000 pertain to the year under report.

(l) Grant and Outlay.

Two years' expenditure compared.

41. The expenditure incurred by the Department for the last two years is as under :—

Works.	Expenditure.	
	1915-16.	1916-17.
	Rs	Rs
1. Original works .	15,27,262	14,68,320
2 Repairs .. .	7,38,368	6,58,180
3. Establishment .	3,26,974	3,30,253
4. Tools and plant .	42,883	22,933
5. Refund of Revenue .. .	21	....
6. Military works, original .	.	1,092
7. Petty Military Public Works .	7,196	8,605
8 Repairs to Military works . .	...	88,606
9. Irrigation Works, Revenue Account.	14,901	30,674
10. Unclaimed deposits	30	....
11. Famine Relief Works—		
(a) Previous famine	203	6
(b) Last famine .	.	
(c) Current famine ..	2	.
(d) Current famine 1916-17	2,202	18
Extra-ordinary famine .	3,988	46,450
Miscellaneous	1,128	...
12. Khangi Contribution works . .	1,54,567	...
13. Petty Public Works of the Khangi Department	1,03,072	2,42,577
14. Miscellaneous contribution works such as water works, etc.	1,72,722	1,26,207
15. Irrigation and other works, charged to capital amount	2,32,091	3,63,515
Grand Total .	33,27,610	33,87,436

Budget allotment and Expenditure in the Divisions.

42. The total budget allotment for the year was Rs. 33,96,526. The following table shows the expenditure actually incurred in the several divisions:—

Divisions	Expenditure	
	1915-16	1916-17.
	Rs	Rs
1. Baroda City Division including Palace Dn.	13,64,020	8,80,259 2,58,757
		11,39,016
2. Electric Division	2,30,724	1,63,640
3 Garden „	3,11,782	3,99,501
4. Baroda „	4,42,974	3,74,745
5. Kadi „	3,68,396	3,77,319
6 Amreli „	2,43,816	3,52,572
7 Naosari „	3,65,898	5,81,643
Total Rs .	33,27,610	33,87,436

B.—Railways.

Direction

43. The direction of the Railway Department continued under Mr. E. Walrond Bryant, M. Inst. C. E. and Mr. P. K. Shinde, B.A., A.M.I.C.E., worked as his Personal Assistant.

44. The total open mileage of the State owned railways at the end of the year under report was:—

Total open mileage

	Name of Railways.	Gauge	Miles.
1	Petlad Railway	5′-6″	21·416
2.	Mehsana Railway	Metre.	162·628
3	Kalol Railway	Do	46·110
4	Khijadiya-Dhari Railway	Do	37·220
5	Dabhoi Railway	2′-6″	154·031
6	Kosamba-Zankvav Railway	2′-6″	26·096
7	Bilimora-Kalamba Railway	2′-6″	35·038
8	Petlad-Vaso-Pihij Railway	2′-6″	19·247
	Total Miles		501·786

Mileage under construction and opened to traffic

45. During the year under report, 131·95 miles were under construction, of which 15·77 miles were opened for traffic.

Budget provision and expenditure

46. The total Budget grant sanctioned for railways during the year was Rs. 21,10,000 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,96,632.

Details of new lines

47. A detailed description of lines completed and those under construction, is given below:—

(a) Lines completed and opened for traffic—

(1) Unai-Kalamba Extension of the Bilimora-Unai line, narrow gauge, 8·80 miles, opened on 1st May 1917.

(2) Masor Road-Jambusar Railway, narrow gauge, 6·97 miles, opened on 1st May 1917.

(b) Progress of lines under construction—

1. *Narrow Gauge.*

(i) Samlaya-Timba Railway, 33·34 miles. The works were nearing completion.

(ii) Motipura-Tankhala Railway, 26·29 miles. The works were in progress.

(iii) Choranda-Koral Railway, 11·68 miles. The works were restarted.

(iv) Bodeli-Chhota Udepur Railway, 22·65 miles. This line was under construction by the B. B. & C. I. Railway on behalf of the Baroda and Chhota Udepur States and has been completed.

2. *Metre Gauge.*

(i) Dewusna-Becharaji Railway, 21·30 miles. The works were in progress.

(ii) Kuranga-Arathra Railway, 36·25 miles. The works were restarted and then stopped as the Government of India's decision regarding extension to Jamnagar was not received; it was therefore considered advisable to make use of the material available for more urgent works.

(c) Projects for which estimates have been submitted—

(i) Ranu-Dabka Railway, narrow gauge, 6 miles. Plans and estimates were submitted to Government, but owing to the

abnormal rates for permanent-way material, the project has been held over and an estimate for constructing a road suitable for a railway in the future has been submitted to Government.

(ii) Vishwamitri to Goyagate Siding, broad gauge, 4 miles. Estimates for this siding, which is intended to develop an industrial area to the east of Baroda, were before Government.

(iii) Vijapur-Ransipur-Taranga Hill Extension, metre gauge, 32·07 miles. Project estimates and plans were submitted to Government; but the proposal has been abandoned.

(iv) Wagrod-Khareda Extension, metre gauge, 12·44 miles. Under orders of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, this extension has been held over until further orders.

(v) Songhad-Vajpur line, narrow gauge, 19·69 miles. This line has similarly been held over till those in hand are completed. Plans and estimates have been submitted.

(vi) Navsari-Palsana Steam Tramway or Narrow Gauge Railway, 12·31 miles. This project was kept in abeyance until the question of the alignment for a railway between Navsari and Moha, between Moha and Bardoli and Anawal is finally settled.

(vii) Motor service between Sayan and Kathor. The scheme has been ordered to be kept pending till the close of the War

(*d*) Lines surveyed or to be surveyed—

(i) Jamwala-Kodinar-Velan Railway, metre gauge, 23 miles. The survey has been completed and an estimate submitted to Government for approval.

(ii) Goyagate to Waghodia, about 13 miles, narrow gauge. Sanction of the Government of India has been received, but it has been decided by His Highness' Government not to proceed with the work at present.

(iii) Harij-Sami-Radhanpur Railway, about 23 miles, metre gauge. This has also been kept in abeyance till the final views of the Government of India regarding the alignment of the Viramgam-Sami-Radhanpur section are known.

(iv) Maroli-Bardoli Railway *via* Moha, about 19¼ miles, narrow gauge. Sanction of the Government of India for the survey of this line has been applied for and was awaited.

(v) Navsari-Moha line, 19 miles, narrow gauge, was pending re-consideration of the Moha-Anawal Branch line.

(vi) Moha-Anawal Branch line, narrow gauge, 17·91 miles, has been kept pending till the proposed Railway connection between Moha and Bardoli is put up for consideration.

(vii) Moha-Bardoli line, narrow gauge. Permission to survey this line has been applied for.

(viii) Petlad-Katana Branch line *via* Borsad and Bhadran. Government of India has been addressed for favourable consideration of this project.

(ix) Dasalwada-Ahmedabad connection, about 30¼ miles, metre gauge. The question of surveying and constructing this line was under correspondence with the Residency.

(x) Navsari-Kāmrej Railway, about 26 miles, narrow gauge. The survey of this line has not yet been taken in hand. The project was under consideration.

(*e*) Other Works--

(i) Under orders of His Highness' Government, further action on the proposed scheme of a State Railway Workshop has been deferred.

C.—The City Improvement Trust.

48. This was the sixth year of the City of Baroda Improvement Trust and Mr. A. H. Coyle continued as Chairman with the following gentlemen as Trustees of the Board :—

Constitution.

1. Dr. Balabhai Maganlal Nanavati, L.M. & S. 2. Mr. R. R. Kothawala.	Government nominees.
3. Mr. Maneklal Ambaram Doctor. 4. Dr. G. B. Paranjpe, L.M. & S.	Elected by the City Municipality.

In the beginning of the year Mr. A. H. Coyle being on leave, Mr. V. R. Akolkar, L.C.E., the acting Chief Engineer, worked as Chairman till the end of August 1917.

Dr. Balabhai Maganlal Nanavati, being on duty with H. H. the Maharaja Saheb, and Mr. Kothawala on leave for more than a month in May 1917, Mr. Maneklal Sakarlal Desai was temporarily appointed Trustee.

Expenditure.

49. The Budget estimates for the work of improvements, &c, sanctioned by Government amounted to Rs. 3,52,700 against which the expenditure incurred was Rs. 2,30,442 as detailed below :—

	Rs.
Buildings	6,121
Communications	17,675
Irrigation and Drainage	1,29,239
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	36,770
Tools and Plant	12,136
Establishment	28,002
Law Charges	315
Repairs	184
Total	2,30,442

The expenditure fell short of the Budget grant on account of difficulties experienced in purchasing materials owing to War conditions ; and the slower progress in acquiring properties was due to changes in the Compensation Rules requiring more detailed particulars to settle the awards.

Contribution works.

50. In addition to new works of improvement, the Trust maintained the completed portions of the City Drainage Works on behalf of the Municipality, acquired certain properties on behalf of the Public Works Department and made drainage

connections at the cost of the house owners. A combined structure of Police Station and Clock Tower was commenced during the year under report, the funds for the Police Station being provided by the Public Works Department. The expenditure on account of these contribution works during the year was as under :—

		Rs.
1.	City Municipality	30,021
2.	Public Works Department Rs. 7,946 *plus* Rs. 673	8,619
3.	Private individuals	5,541
	Total ..	44,181

51. The following works were completed during the year under report :—

Works completed.

1. Sections 1 and 2 of the traffic road from the south-east corner of the Jubilee Garden to the corner of the Light Field Battery including storm-water drain and the east side compound wall of the Jubilee Garden (part of the whole scheme).
2. Opening of the Amli Falia at Shiyapura on Raopura Road (part of the scheme).
3. Opening of Jogidas Vithal's Pole, Kothi Pole and Kasai (Panchmukhi Mahadeo's) Pole (part of the scheme).
4. Residential Quarters Block No. 1 on the open piece of ground between Kharchikar and Kharivav lanes (investment of Trust funds).
5. Laying of pipe sewers on the traffic road and the connected lanes.
6. Laying of pipe sewers for the Leather Factory.

52. The following works were sanctioned by Government during the year under report and the schemes from Nos. 1 to 6 and 11 were advertized :—

Works sanctioned.

		Rs.
1.	Improving the area to the north of Khatri Pole and laying it out for building purposes	18,500
2.	Flattening the Anandpura curve and improvements in Kasar Falia ..	12,622
3.	Metalling the road from the Leheripura Gate to the Murda Bari and improving the portion to the south of the Nyaya Mandir	47,372
4.	Improvements in Anandpura and housing the population to be dislodged thereby	1,77,603
5.	Improving the sanitation of Dandia Bazaar	1,21,911
6.	Widening the main entrance of Ghadiali Pole and laying out squares, &c.	66,844
7.	Additional works at City Drainage Main Pumping Station in connection with motor pumps	9,200
8.	Acquiring a house in Anandpura ..	1,384
9.	Laying pipe-sewers on the traffic road and connected lanes	9,980
10.	Laying 6″ pipe-sewer for the Leather Factory	1,790

		Rs.
11.	Improving the insanitary lane between houses of Kasar Falia and Ramji Mandir's Pole	5,320
12.	Laying pipe-sewers, &c., in the Shanker Tekari in Babajipura	7,039

53. The following schemes were under contemplation, but not fully developed :—

Schemes to be developed.

1. Acquisition of some houses in the south-west square of the City.
2. Improvements in the south-east square of the City.
3. Extension of the City to the north.
4. A traffic road from the Goods Yard to the City *via* the Public Park.
5. Removal of some insanitary houses in Kasar Falia.
6. Improvements in the area to the north of the Raopura Road and west of Kapadi Pole.

Programme of the whole City

54. During the year a comprehensive programme with maps and rough estimates for the improvement of the whole City has been prepared and is under consideration of Government.

Drainage works

55. The City Drainage Works were retarded owing to the difficulty of obtaining stoneware articles, &c., from out-stations, but about 6 miles of pipe-sewers ranging from 6″ to 12″ were nevertheless laid with all accessories.

The works at the Main Pumping Station were nearly completed and the electric pumps put in operation from April 1917. The work of providing a telephone at the Main Pumping Station could not be done for want of materials.

56. The Night-soil Depot was nearly completed. This work was undertaken by the Trust on behalf of the City Municipality.

Night-soil Depot.

57. During the year under report, at the request of parties dissatisfied with the awards of the City Improvement Trust for properties acquired, 14 references were made to the Civil Court. Out of the references disposed of, one case was decided in favour of the plaintiffs and five in favour of the Trust.

Civil Suits.

CHAPTER VIII.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

A.—Education.

(a) ORGANISATION.

No of Institutions

1. The total number of institutions during the year was 3,199 as against 2,719 of the preceding year, thus showing an increase of 480 in the number of institutions. This however is not a real increase. The rise in the number is mainly due to the fact that under Huzur Orders schools teaching upto Standards V and VI vernacular are counted twice over as both Lower Primary and Upper Primary schools—(1) from the 1st to the 4th Standards comprising one Lower Primary school and (2) Standards V and VI or Standard V alone, where there is no 6th Standard, comprising one Higher Primary school. In the above number of 3,199 there were 595 Higher Primary schools. If, for comparison with the figure for the last year, we were to leave this number out of consideration, the number of institutions for the year would stand at 2,604, showing a decrease of 115 institutions, which is accounted for by the want of the prescribed number of pupils in them. The total number of students in these schools in the year was 2,42,066 as against 2,49,026.

Administration and Inspectorial Staff.

2. Mr. A. M. Masani continued to control the Department, English as well as Vernacular, as Minister of Education and Vidyadhikari, till the end of January 1917. He also exercised general supervision over the Museum and the Library Department. Mr. A. B. Clarke succeeded him and took charge on the 1st of February 1917. The Head of the Department

was assisted by one Naib Vidyadhikari, 6 Divisional Inspectors, 3 Inspectresses and 37 Deputy Educational Inspectors. One post of Chief Inspector was added at the close of the year and its incumbent, Mr. Dixit, took charge in the beginning of July 1917.

Kinds of Educational Institutions.

3. The various educational institutions under the control of the Department were distributed according to their kind and the sex of their pupils as shown in the table below :—

Nature of Institutions	Number	Number of male pupils.	Number of female pupils.	Total
ENGLISH EDUCATION				
1 College	1	562	13	575
2 High Schools for Boys	12	4,443	4	4,447
3. High School for Girls .	1	..	137	137
4 A. V. Schools . .	34	5,341	..	5,341
5 Higher Standard Classes	13	270	..	270
6. Princes' School .	1	1	2	3
7 Special Institutions	2	45	..	45
Total	64	10,662	156	10,818
VERNACULAR EDUCATION.				
8. Training Colleges for Men	2	501	..	501
9 Training College for Women	1	..	122	122
10. Vernacular Schools for Boys .	2,656	1,4 ,405	.	1,40,405
11. Vernacular Schools for Girls ..	403	..	84,605	84,605
12. Kala-Bhavan	1	433	..	433
13. Other Institutions .	72	4,253	929	5,182
Total ..	3,135	1,45,592	85,656	2,31,248
Grand Total ..	3,199	1,56,254	85,812	2,42,066

(b) Features of the Year.

4. Amongst the important measures adopted during the year for the improvement of education and dissemination of knowledge may be mentioned the following :—

Features of the year.

(1) With a view to improve the teaching staff of the Secondary Schools in the State, a Secondary Teachers' Training College was started in Baroda with Mr. N. K. Dixit and Mr. Ratilal Desai as Principal and Vice-Principal, respectively. Fifteen graduate teachers and an equal number of Matriculate teachers received training in this College during the year in the art of teaching.

Secondary Teachers' Training College.

(2) A class was started in Baroda for training teachers in Sloyd work and the services of an expert in this subject from Mysore have been borrowed. Six graduate teachers and one Drawing Master from the English Education Department, and 12 Drawing and Manual Teachers from the vernacular side of the Department were called to attend the class.

Sloyd Class.

(3) The Grant-in-aid Matriculation Class at Bhadran was converted into a Government class, and the school was thus raised to the status of a full fledged High School. For this purpose Mr. Tulsibhai Bakorbhai Patel had offered Rs. 18,000. This offer was thankfully accepted and the school was named after him. The opening ceremony of the school was performed by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, who was graciously pleased to go to Bhadran for the purpose.

Matric Class at Bhadran converted into Government class.

(4) The offer of a spacious and well-ventilated building made by Bai Chunibai, widow of the late Sheth Gokalbhai Dolatram of Visnagar, for the High School and Boarding House there was accepted with thanks and the school was named after the deceased husband of the donor.

Offer of a building for the Visnagar High School

(5) The High School for Girls was separated from the Female Training College and was seated in the new building near Sursagar Misses M. A. Needham and R. C. Buchanan have been appointed as Principal and Vice-Principal, respectively, and the school has been named "Maharani High School" for Girls.

Separate Girls' High School.

(6) Miss G. Marsden having left service, Miss E. F. Woods has been appointed Head Mistress of the Princes' School.

Miss Woods comes as Head Mistress, Princes' School

(7) The Secondary Education Code has been ready and is now in the Press.

Secondary Education Code.

(8) Unlike the other Departments of the State the Education Department had up to now to get its budget sanctioned annually, thus involving considerable waste of time and energy in allotments of the various sanctioned amounts. This practice was put a stop to this year and sanction was obtained for a fixed budget for the Department.

Fixed budget obtained.

(9) At the instance of the Education Committee, the offices of the Deputy Educational Inspectors, which were hitherto separate, were abolished and the administrative work of the districts was centred in the offices of the Divisional Inspectors.

Deputy Inspectors' offices abolished.

(10) Hitherto the examinees for the "Shravana Mas Dakshina Examinations" were at liberty to answer the question papers in the vernacular. Their knowledge of Sanskrit could not, however, be thus properly tested. It was, therefore, ruled that the papers should be answered in Sanskrit.

Shravana Mas Dakshina Examination papers to be answered in Sanskrit.

(11) The rules in connection with translating useful books into vernacular needed revision. The work was, therefore, taken in hand during the year and pushed on vigorously.

Translation rules revised

(12) Under Huzur Orders, the different rules in force pertaining to Vernacular Education have been codified, and were under consideration of Government.

Vernacular Education Code

(13) A Vernacular School Final Class has been opened with a view to turning out suitable candidates for the lower subordinate service of the State.

Vernacular School Final Class

5. During the course of the year, His Highness the Maharaja evinced his great interest in Sanskrit Education by visiting the Sanskrit Pathashala twice. He also went to Sinore, Songadh, Naosari and Bilimora, where the school children were given prizes and sweets in his honour.

His Highness' visits

6. Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Alwar and the Rajasaheb of Cochin, as also their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon visited the Central Library, the Museum, the Kala-Bhavan, and the Female Training College. Besides these, Rajkumar Captain Amarjit Singhji, who was deputed by His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala to study educational developments in this State, visited several Educational Institutions.

Distinguished visitors.

(c) English Education.

Number and strength of English teaching institutions.

7. During the year under report there were 63 institutions (besides the Princes' School) where English was taught against 61 in the preceding year. One aided Matriculation Class which was hitherto treated separately was amalgamated with the Government High School. To train up secondary teachers and improve the tone of Secondary Education, the Training College for Secondary Teachers was started in November 1916. A special Sloyd Class was opened to train teachers in Sloyd work as Sloyd System is to be introduced in all the schools of the State. The number of pupils on the roll in these different institutions is shown in the table below :—

Number of Institutions		Institutions	Number of Students.	
1915-16	1916-17		1915-16	1916-17
		Government		
1	1	Baroda College	636	575
5	6	High Schools for boys	2,479	2,743
1	1	High School for girls	142	137
25	24	A. V. Schools	4,004	4,184
	1	S T T College	..	26
	1	Sloyd Class		19
		Aided		
5	5	High Schools	1,498	1,378
6	6	A. V. Schools	538	875
13	12	Standards V, VI and VII Classes	269	258
		Unaided		
1	1	High School	167	326
4	4	A. V. Schools	290	282
..	1	V Standard Class	..	12
61	63	Total	10,023	10,815

To these 10,815 may be added 540 boys learning English in 10 Primary schools and 116 boys of the Antyaja Community learning English in two Antyaja schools at Baroda and Patan. The grand total of pupils learning English during the year thus comes to 11,474 (11,318 boys and 156 girls) as against 11,443 (11,280 boys and 163 girls) in the preceding year.

The Baroda College

8. The Baroda College was founded in the year 1882 for imparting higher University education and was recognised for the full course in Arts and Science in 1890. It maintained a large and augmented staff and achieved, as usual, satisfactory results at the University Examinations. The staff consists of the Principal and sixteen professors besides lecturers in French, Sanskrit, and Logic, a Shastri, a Munshi, two College Fellows, a graduate demonstrator, two laboratory assistants and four student demonstrators in Physics, one laboratory assistant in Chemistry, a mistri, a librarian and clerical staff.

Staff

9. Mr. Clarke having been appointed Minister of Education, Mr. A. M. Masani, M.A., B. Sc., was transferred as Principal, Baroda College, and Mr. A. X. Soares, M.A., LL.B., was appointed Extra Professor of English.

Number of students and hostels.

10. The number of students on the College rolls was 575 including 13 lady students as against 626 with 10 lady students in the preceding year. There are three Government hostel buildings in the College grounds and one rented in the neighbourhood, accommodating on the whole 160 students.

The Resident Professor occupies a Government bungalow adjoining the hostels.

11. The College library contains about 10,111 volumes as against 11,190 in the preceding year. The number of books has gone down because such books as were useful to schools have been made over to the Baroda High School. The number of books issued to students and staff by the librarian was 6,000. In addition the College Library, students were allowed free use of the Central Library.

Library.

12. The total expenditure on account of the College amounted to Rs. 1,34,982 as against Rs. 1,28,093 in the preceding year, while receipts from fees, etc., amounted to Rs. 33,717 as against Rs. 35,020 in the last year. The net cost for educating a pupil comes to about Rs 176 per student.

Receipts and Disbursement.

13. The following table gives the results of the different University examinations held during the year :—

University Results

Examinations	No of students sent up	No of students passed.	Remarks
M A.	3	2	
B.A Hon.	44	26	2 1st Class
,, Pass ..	41	25	15 2nd Class.
Intermediate Arts	179	87	13 2nd Class.
B.Sc. (New) .. .	1	1	1 2nd Class.
,, (Old) .. .	2	2	1 1st Class
Intermediate (Science)	13	6	2 2nd Class.
Pre. Science	5	2	
First year's Course ..	276	134	This is a College Examination.
Total .	564	285	

14. The Seminar for the Comparative Study of Religions continued its researches under Prof. Widgery. As a result of its activity the first volume of the "Indian Philosophical Review" was out in July 1917 edited by Prof. Widgery and Prof. Ranade of Poona. The two seminar fellows having resigned, Messrs. Rehman and Buch were appointed in their places. Several contributions were published in the Journal of the Iranian Association, Bombay, and the "Modern Churchman," London, and they are being translated by the seminar fellows into Gujarati, Marathi and Urdu. Some works have been completed through co-operation and the literature gathered, and they are in the course of publication.

Seminar.

15. In the College Observatory, meteorological readings are taken thrice a day at 8–36, and 10–36 A.M. and 4–36 P.M.

Observatory.

16. During the year there were seven Government High Schools (including the Maharani High School for girls at Baroda and the New T. B. High School at Bhadran). Besides these, there were five aided High Schools (two at Baroda, one each at Dharmaj, Navsari and Gandevi) and three Matriculation classes (one each at Petlad, Sojitra and Sidhpur); there is an Unaided High School at Navsari conducted by Mr. Gulabdas Bhaidas Vakil, entirely from his own private resources.

The High Schools.

17. The following table gives results at the Matriculation and School Final Examinations in the above-mentioned institutions :—

Results of Matric. and S. F. Exams.

No.	School.	Matriculation.				School Final			
		Sent-up.		Passed		Sent-up.		Passed	
		Students	Ex-Students	Students.	Ex-Students	Students	Ex-Students	Students.	Ex-Students.
	Government								
1	Baroda High School	105	5	52		5	2	1	1
2	Maharani High School for Girls .	5	..	2					
3	T B High School, Bhadran	18	3	1		5		1	..
4	Patan High School .	41	12	5	1			..	
5	G D. High School, Visnagar	21	1	5		.		.	.
6	M & R Tata H S, Bilimora	12		7				.	
7	Amreli High School ..	27		9					
	Aided								
8	Shree Sayaji High School, Baroda .	45	7	8	1				
9	Maharani Chimnabai High School, Baroda	32	2	11	2	.	.	.	
10	Dharmaj High School ..	10		5				.	.
11	Sir C J N Z Madressa, Navsari	37	..	18		15	3	5	1
12	Sir C J. R High School, Gandevi	12	.	3	.				.
13	Matriculation C, Petlad .. .	71	4	22	.	5	1	4	.
14	,, Sidhpur ..	23	5	2	..		..	..	..
15	,, Sojitra .. .	27	..	8	..	.	1	.	.
	Unaided								
16	G. B. Institute, Navsari	31	1	10	..	15	..	3	.

18. Almost all the Government High Schools have hostels attached to them. The hostels at Petlad, Sojitra, Bhadran, Sidhpur and Bilimora offer accommodation to eighty, thirty-seven, twenty, twenty-seven and eighteen students respectively. The Dabu Quarters and the Gulabdas Hostel, both at Navsari, accommodate fifty and seventy-four students respectively.

High School Hostels

19. During the year under report the number of A. V. Schools, both Government and Aided, was 30, besides nine Aided Fifth and Sixth Standard Classes attached to Government A. V. Schools and four independent Unaided Anglo-Vernacular Schools. Residential facilities for students studying in the Anglo-Vernacular Schools are provided on Grant-in-aid principles at each of the following places :—Padra, Dabhoi, Karjan, Mehsana, Kadi, Vijapur, Kathor and Maroli.

A V Schools and Hostels

20. During the year, new buildings for T. B. High School, Bhadran, and A. V. Schools at Vyara, Chanasma and Vijapur were ready and taken up for use. The generous offer of a well-ventilated and spacious building made by Bai Chunibai was accepted by Government with thanks for the use of G. D. High School, Visnagar.

Buildings

21. Mr. M. U. Almaula worked as "Vijnan Vyakhyankar" for six months over and above his duties as Science Instructor. He visited 14 Secondary schools and nearly 10 Primary schools. He fitted up the laboratories there and helped the Science Masters in making the work of Science teaching easy. He also worked as Science Teacher in the Secondary Teachers' Training College and Maharani High School for girls. He attended the special Sloyd class during the monsoon.

Special Science Instruction.

22. The Princes' School, a special institution for the instruction of the grand children of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, and certain selected companions, continued to do highly useful work. Miss Marsden severed her connection with the State in March. She was succeeded as Head Mistress by Miss E. F. Woods. During the year under report Sloyd teaching was introduced, and the teaching of Swedish drill and gymnastics was undertaken by the Head Mistress.

The Princes' School.

The progress of the royal children was satisfactory in all respects.

23. The aggregate annual value of State Scholarships tenable in the Baroda College and the Secondary schools of the State was Rs. 6,984. These include scholarships of the value of Rs. 90 per month awarded to students studying at the Fergusson College, Poona, and the Sydenham College of Commerce, Bombay. In addition, Khangi Scholarships founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb amounting to Rs. 6,620 were given out of the annual grant of Rs. 7,000. The Khangi scholars selected by His Highness were 25, out of whom 6 were girls. The interest accruing from the Maratha Education Fund of Rs. 1,50,000, founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, is utilised in awarding scholarships to Maratha students in and outside Baroda.

Scholarships.

24. The total expenditure and receipts under the head of English education for the last three years are shown in the following table :—

Expenditure and receipts

Item.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Expenditure	2,83,482	3,48,715	3,82,434
Income	78,286	91,723	96,308

(d) VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

Number and strength of Primary Schools.

25. On the 31st July 1917, there were 3,067 * Government, 24 aided and 26 un-aided Primary Schools and one Orphanage, thus making a total of 3,118 institutions against 2,642 of the preceding year. Besides these there were three Training Colleges (2 for men and 1 for women), 4 Technical Schools (including the Kala-Bhavan at Baroda and the Tata Industrial School at Navsari), 1 Reformatory, 5 Music Schools and 2 Antyaja Boardings. Also 1 Vernacular School Final Class and 1 Sardar Boarding were opened this year. The number of all the institutions and the pupils attending them for the year under report and the preceding year are given below :—

Year.	Boys' Schools.		Girls' Schools.		Other Institutions.		Total.	
	No of schools.	No. of Boys	No. of schools	No. of Girls.	No. of schools.	No. of pupils.	No. of schools.	No. of pupils.
1915-16	2,229	1,43,268	357	89,260	71	6,472	2,657	2,39,000
1916-17	2,656	1,40,405	403	84,605	76	6,238	3,135	2,31,248

Number of Schools.

26. The number of schools this year was 3,135 against 2,657 of the last year. As is already explained the increase is not real, but is only due to counting classes above the 4th Standard in Vernacular schools as separate Higher Primary Schools though managed by the same Head Master and accommodated in the same building. As a matter of fact, however, leaving 595 Higher Primary Schools out of consideration for the sake of finding the correct figure of increase or decrease, there were 2,540 vernacular institutions, showing a decrease of 117 over

* This number includes 2 Deaf and Dumb schools and 6 Sanskrit schools.

the figure for the last year. This decrease, as is already mentioned, was mainly due to the fact that some of the schools had to be closed as the number of pupils therein was short of that prescribed by rules. They will be reopened if the number rises to the sanctioned strength.

Classification of Schools

27. The classification of Vernacular Schools into (1) Higher Primary and (2) Lower Primary remained unchanged this year. From this year, however, they are considered to be separate institutions, for statistical purposes only, which was not the case last year.

Compulsory Fines.

28. The total amount of fines for non-admission and non-attendance, recovered during the year, amounted to Rs 77,376, and the total amount of arrears remitted in this behalf was Rs. 8,288

Expenditure on Primary Schools

29. The total expenditure on 2,464 Primary Schools (not distinguishing the Higher from the lower Primary Schools) amounted to Rs. 10,89,514 as against Rs. 11,59,416 of the last year, giving an average of Rs 442 per school against Rs. 445 of the preceding year. Thus it will be seen that a successful attempt has been made not to exceed the average expenditure per school of the last year.

Training College for men.

30. There were two Training Colleges for Men at work, which have an interesting history. In the year 1885 a "Training School" was started for the first time at Baroda and was attached to the Kala-Bhavan. It was, however, closed in 1898 being then no more needed. However, in 1905 it was reopened to meet the increasing demand for trained teachers, which was intensified by the establishment of compulsory education. Its status was raised from a "school" to that of a "College" and it was made independent of the Kala-Bhavan. In the year 1908, arrangements were made to admit 200 pupils every year in the College to meet the increasing demand for

trained teachers. Even this was, however, found to be inadequate, and in 1913 a separate Training College had to be opened at Patan, in the Kadi District. At Patan there were only the first and second year classes, while in the Baroda Male Training College the full course of three years was kept, teachers from all the districts coming to Baroda for the senior class of the Training College. The teachers under training are given practical lessons in the art of teaching by means of practising schools attached to both the Training Colleges. All the assistant masters in these practising schools are specially selected senior trained men. At the close of the year there were 501 teachers receiving training in these Training Colleges as against 580 of the last year.

Number of Scholarships limited

31 Hitherto all the teachers attending the Training College used to get scholarships. This practice was, however, stopped and the number of scholarships was limited to 80 for the First Year, 80 for the Second Year and 20 for the Third Year at Baroda. These scholarships were awarded to the most deserving, allowing others to join the Colleges without scholarships, if they so chose. The maximum attendance was however limited to 163, 121 and 41 respectively in the three classes at Baroda.

Accommodation for College Classes

32. In Baroda, the College Classes assembled in the new and commodious Kareli Bag Building with adequate equipments. At Patan, however, the best available rented building had to be used. Messrs. Pinakiprasad M. Desai and T. R. Pandya worked as Principals of the Baroda and Patan Training Colleges respectively throughout the year.

Training College Examinations.

33. The Bombay University having decided to begin its Academic Year with June instead of January, all the educational institutions in the Bombay Presidency changed

their terms to bring them in conformity with the University terms. The Baroda Training College also followed suit and, besides the usual examination in November 1916, another examination was held in May 1917. In both the Training Colleges together in the two examinations thus held in the year under Report, 1,009 appeared at the First Year's Examination, out of which 652 passed, 430 appeared at the Second Year's examination, out of which 364 were declared to be successful and out of the 115 candidates that appeared for the final examination, 87 were successful.

Hostels attached to the Training Colleges.

34. Each of the two Colleges has a hostel attached to it. It is under the general supervision of a Superintendent selected from the College Staff and living in the residential quarters. The number of students in residence at both the Hostels was 280.

College Union and its activities.

35. The scholars in the Baroda Male Training College have formed what is called a College Union and among the various activities of this Union, mention may be made of (1) a Reading Room, (2) a Debating Society, and (3) the Social Service League.

Total expenditure on the two Training Colleges for Men.

36. The total annual expenditure on the two Colleges amounted to Rs. 90,999 as against Rs. 1,00,664 in the last year, giving per pupil an average of 181 against 173.

(*e*) Education of Girls.

Girls' Schools.

37. The total number of Girls' schools was 414 as against 366 in the preceding year, and the number of girls learning in them was 39,098 as against 40,766. This number, when added to that of girls learning with boys in mixed schools rises to 85,656 as compared

with 90,235 of the last year. This year, though there is an apparent increase of 48 in the number of Girls' schools, there is really a decrease of one school, if we do not consider the Higher and Lower Primary Schools, accommodated in the same building under the same Head Master to be separate, that is to say, from that point of view the real number of Girls' schools this year is 365. This decrease of one was due to fall in the number on the roll below 75 as fixed by rules.

Zanana Classes

38. Out of the three Zanana Classes of the last year, two had to be closed owing to a fall in attendance. Only one class now exists in the Baroda City which is composed of (1) the Higher and (2) the Lower Primary School under the present regulations. The class is conducted by trained women teachers in the afternoons from 2 to 5, when the women are free from their domestic duties. It had 64 women on the roll.

Special subjects taught in Girls' schools

39. Besides the ordinary subjects of study, certain branches of domestic science and household arts such as needlework, embroidery, drawing, music and cookery are offered to girls in Baroda and some of the principal towns in the State. Under the existing rules needlework and embroidery are not taught in Primary Schools, unless the people are forthcoming to bear the expenses. It is gratifying to note that in a few places people have so come forward.

Training College for Women

40. The Training College for Women was first started in 1882 for training women teachers. The College was under the management of Miss J. B. Engineer, M.A., B.Sc., till the 23rd of March 1917, after which she left the service and Miss S. S. Homawala, Head Mistress of the Training College, was put in charge of the institution as Acting Lady Superintendent, and continued to work as such upto the end of the year. The Lady Superintendent was assisted in her

work by 1 graduate, 2 undergraduates and six trained teachers. The number of women under training during the year was 122 as against 118 of the preceding year.

Want of female teachers not fully met.

41. All possible inducements of pay and prospects are held out to women to join the Training College, as there is a pressing demand for female teachers; but they have not been hitherto successful in attracting young and intelligent women of good social position in sufficient numbers. There are full arrangements for training 150 scholars, but it will take a long time before this maximum number is reached. There are altogether 227 female teachers in service at present, showing an increase of only 7 over the figure for the last year.

Hostel for female scholars.

42. The Training College for Women has a hostel attached to it, and it affords comfortable accommodation to 52 female scholars. There is a separate post of a Superintendent of the Hostel, but in the absence of a suitable person to fill it up, Miss Homawala worked as such.

Amreli Female Training College Branch.

43. At Amreli there is a branch of this Female Training College teaching upto the 2nd year with 16 women in the first year and 8 in the second year under training.

Results of Examinations

44. At the annual examination, out of 110 scholars, 104 appeared and 63 passed; the result being 60·5 per cent. Three scholars appeared for the different grade examinations of Sir J. J. School of Arts, Bombay, but only two came out successful.

In the Ambulance Examination held by the Baroda Medical Department 30 female students appeared, out of which

11 passed, in Home Hygiene 17 appeared and 7 passed, whereas in Nursing 10 out of 21 were successful.

Prizes and Medals

45. The Dalal Home Hygiene Medal, the Shrimant Fateh Sinh Rao Drill Prize, the Miss Wiltshire Prize and the Miss Bhore Prize have been awarded as usual to successful candidates at the annual examinations.

Expenditure

46. The total expenditure including the expenses on account of scholarships amounted to Rs. 17,925 as against Rs. 23,231 of the last year.

Inspection

47. The Girls' Schools are examined and inspected by three Inspectresses, the post for the Amreli District being vacant. They did their work with zeal and ability, and moved for 8 months in the year in their respective divisions, visited schools in their charge and maintained them in efficient condition. Under their control the girls' schools have shown more life and activity.

(*f*) Education of Special Classes.

Antyaja Schools

48. According to the last Census, the population of Dheds, Chamars, Khalpas, etc., known as the Antyaja or Depressed Classes numbered 1,74,289. For the education of their children there were 275 separate Antyaja schools, including 22 Higher Primary Classes, thus the net number of schools being 253 against 252 of the last year, showing an increase of one Antyaja school. Out of the above schools 248 were for boys and 5 exclusively for girls. The total number of pupils attending these schools was 11,183 (10,856 boys and 327 girls). Besides these, 6,527 children of the Antyaja Classes were receiving their education in other Primary Schools. Thus the total number of Antyaja children

in schools is 17,710, *i.e.*, 10 per cent. of their population. The first standard English Class at the Baroda Antyaja school shows an attendance of 5 girls against three of the last year. There are 11 Antyaja boys in the Baroda High School, and three in the Kala-Bhavan. School requisites and books are given free by Government to these children and scholarships of an aggregate amount of Rs. 122 per mensem were awarded in the principal Antyaja schools to students in higher standards. Eight scholarships of Rs. 5 each are given to students studying in the 4th,5th and 6th Standard classes of the Baroda High School. These scholars show fairly good progress in their studies. In the Training College, along with high class Hindus, 15 Antyaja scholars received training. The Antyaja Boarding at Baroda, accommodated 43 children (including 8 girls), while the one at Patan had 30 boys only. The Antyaja schools are placed under the direct control of the special Antyaja Inspector. Four Antyaja senior trained teachers worked as Sub-Deputy Inspectors to inspect Antyaja schools. With a view to encourage higher study and explain the benefits of general education to their own community, they convene parents' meetings at important centres and lecture on educational and social problems.

The Garoda School

49. The Garoda School was founded in August 1913 with a view to teach Sanskrit to the sons of the Garoda or the priestly class of the Antyajas and initiate them in the proper performance of religious rights and ceremonies. This school enrolled 21 Garoda students, 15 in the first year and 6 in the second against 12 and 6 respectively in the preceding year with a monthly stipend of Rs. 8 and 9 in the 1st and 2nd years respectively.

Education of Forest tribes.

50. The four Dhanka Boarding Schools, three for boys and one for girls of the forest tribes, such as the Chodharas, Dhankas, Nayakas, Bhils, Gamats, etc., continued their useful

work in the Rani Mahals of the Navsari Prant and showed satisfactory progress during the year. Every one of the boarding schools had on the roll the maximum number of students, *viz.*, 100 at Songhad, Vyara, and Mahuva, and 50 at the Girls' Dhanka Boarding School of Songadh. These schools now teach higher vernacular standards, as boys seeking admission into them have learnt the lower standards in their own village schools. The course of studies included both practical and theoretical training in methods of agriculture and field work at the model farms at Songadh and Vyara. The Dhanka girls in the Songadh Boarding, besides learning practical work at the farm, get an opportunity of learning drawing. Carpentry forms an additional subject of study, being selected with a view to teach the students the art of repairing agricultural tools and implements and other wooden articles of husbandry. In the annual examination in carpentry out of 59 boys on the roll at Songadh and 83 at Vyara, 44 and 59 respectively appeared and 28 and 38 passed. In Agriculture both theoretical and practical there were respectively 88 and 83 on the roll at Songadh and Vyara, out of which 68 and 71 appeared for the examination and 61 and 60 passed. The children of these forest tribes are generally educated in the ordinary primary schools. The Dhanka boarders, as a rule, are very obedient, quiet and hard-working. The pick of the Kaliparaj boys have joined English schools at Mahuva and Vyara, which shows their decided advance in education. Some Dhanka students, after finishing the Vernacular school course, accept school or other clerical service. However, many of them prefer to carry on their hereditary profession of agriculture with more intelligent interest.

Expenditure on Dhanka Boardings.

51. The total expenditure incurred on these forest tribes' boarding schools amounted to Rs. 15,400 against Rs. 24,343 in the preceding year. The receipts from the sale of farm products and other sundries amounted to Rs. 870. The

net average annual cost of education per Dhanka student amounted to Rs. 44.

Urdu Schools in the State

52. The male Mahomedan population numbers 82,465 and the female 77,647 in the State. The actual number of Mahomedans who speak Urdu in their homes is estimated at 64,806. This year there were in all 104 Urdu schools for boys, out of which 26 were Higher Primary classes, thus leaving 78 net Urdu schools for boys, as against 79 of the last year. The number of Urdu Girls' schools remained the same as that for the last year, *viz.*, 33, only with this difference that one of these schools has this year got Higher Primary classes. All these schools have together 7,943 boys and 2,675 girls learning in them. Taking into consideration 8,804 Mahomedan children attending various Gujrati schools, the total number of Mahomedan children receiving primary education comes to 19,422 against 20,111 in the year preceding. This gives a percentage of 12·1 against 12·5 in the preceding year. The inspection and examination of these schools was conducted by a Mahomedan Inspector assisted by a Deputy.

(*g*) Technical Education.

The Kala-Bhavan

53. The Central Technical Institution, or the Kala-Bhavan, continued to be under Principal C. H. Vora. It was organised in 1890 by Professor Gajjar, the first Principal, and since then it has been doing the work of popularising and promoting technical education among the masses. The course covers a period of three years. In Civil and Mechanical Engineering, after completion of the third year's course, students do special work in the workshops as apprentices. In the Commercial Section, the course extends over a period of two years.

54. The new enrolments during the year were **433.** These students were divided among the six departments of the Kala-Bhavan as under :—

Numerical strength

Name of School.	Number of Boys in	
	1915-16	1916-17.
1 Art (Fine and Industrial)	83	87
2 Civil Engineering	114	89
3. Mechanical Engineering	114	115
4 Chemical Technology (Dyeing, Bleaching and Calico Printing)	20	40
5 Textile Manufacturing	48	57
6 Commerce	29	45
Total	408	433

55 In the Art Department, provision is made for teaching portrait painting, enamelling, wood carving, repoussé work and photo-mechanical processes.

The subjects provided in Art Department

56. Out of the total number of 433 students, 96 belonged to the State and 337 came from various parts of India, especially the Bombay Presidency. Practical tuition, moderate scale of fees and instruction through the vernacular and absence of sufficient facilities elsewhere attract students from outside. Out of 96 boys belonging to the State, 60 belong to Baroda City and 36 to other parts of the State. Out of the 337 students from outside the State, 232 belong to Bombay Presidency, 68 came from Central India, the Central Provinces, the Punjab and Upper India generally, 36 came from Southern India, and 1 from Goa.

Analysis of students

57. The Government grant for competitive scholarships in the Institute continued to be Rs. 100 per month. In addition to this, the four District Boards give two scholarships of Rs. 7 each to artisan students coming from their own districts. The Pilajirao Gaekwar Scholarships of Rs 10 per month recently endowed by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb for artisan students, 1 for each Prant, were awarded to artisan students studying in the Kala-Bhavan. The hostel affords accommodation for 115 boarders. A Medical Officer looks after the health of the students.

Technical Scholarships.

58. At the annual examinations, 218 pupils appeared from all the branches, and 77 passed. For the Final Diploma Examination, 103 presented and 59 secured the award. In the Drawing examinations, held by the Sir J. J. School of Arts in Bombay, 9 students appeared for the Elementary course and 20 for the Intermediate and 3 and 3 respectively were successful. In the 1st and 2nd year Draftsman's examinations, 17 appeared and 14 passed. In the examination under the Boiler Inspection Act, 4 were declared qualified for the 3rd and 5 for the 2nd. At the N. U. T. Examination, 27 students appeared from the School of Commerce, their number of subject entries was 96, out of which 68 passes were secured, while at the London Chamber of Commerce examination, 12 appeared and 5 passed.

Results of examinations

59. There were two Government Industrial Schools, one at Amreli and the other at Dabhoi. The former imparts instruction in dyeing, weaving and carpentry, and the latter, which is mono-technic in character, in weaving only. Besides these two, there is the aided Tata Industrial school at Navsari. There were 96 students in the Amreli Industrial School as against 73 of the preceding year. Of these, 17 studied dyeing, 32 carpentry and 47 weaving. The expenditure during the year

Industrial Schools.

was Rs. 4,632 compared to Rs. 5,249 of the preceding year. The Institution continued to be under the management of Mr. Usuf, M.Sc. (Manchester). In the weaving school at Dabhoi, there were 19 students compared with 31 of the preceding year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,108 compared with Rs. 1,315 of the previous year. This worked out to Rs. 58 per student. The Tata Industrial School at Navsari, received Rs. 3,400 as an annual Government grant. Out of 54 students on the roll, 47 were Hindus, 6 Parsis and 1 Mahomedan. The number of students has increased in the year as compared to that of the previous year which was 8 only. For the drawing examinations of the Sir J. J. School of Arts, Bombay, 15 students went up for the Elementary examination and 2 for the Intermediate examination, out of whom 4 passed in the former and 1 in the latter. Of the students who appeared from this school for the Mechanical Engineering Certificate Examination held at Bombay, 3 got the Third Class and 1 the Second Class Certificate.

The Workshops

60. The Nazar Paga Workshops, under the management of Mr Vevai, afford practical training in the use of engines, lathes, tools and machines to the students of the Kala-Bhavan, who have also an opportunity of watching the manufacture, on a business scale, of articles in wood, metal, and cast iron prepared to order for the various departments and public bodies. The work turned out in these shops was estimated at Rs. 58,257 against Rs. 65 035. Attached to the Workshops, there are 3 classes of applied art for repoussé work, enamelling and wood-carving. Sons of artisans only attend them and their number is yet small, but efforts are being made to attract them by the payment of a small daily wage.

The Reformatory.

61. The Children's Court Act necessitated the opening of a Reformatory for juvenile offenders and one has been opened at Baroda since August 1913. It is under the control of the Principal

of the Kala-Bhavan. The Reformatory was shifted from the Farm Boarding House to the adjoining old Ice Factory Building after making necessary changes and repairs therein and is now more favourably located. There were 27 juvenile offenders at the end of the year under report. The inmates are taught reading, writing, carpentry, practical agriculture, and field work. The total expense incurred on this account is Rs. 3,601, giving an average of Rs. 133 per head.

Expenditure.

62. The total cost of technical education (including that of the Reformatory) amounted to Rs. 74,116 against Rs. 76,510 in the previous year. Deducting the expenditure incurred in connection with the two Industrial schools at Amreli and Dabhoi (which cost Rs. 4,632 and Rs. 1,108 respectively), the annual average cost of the Kala-Bhavan was Rs. 158 per pupil against Rs. 171 in the previous year. The receipts from fees, &c., were Rs. 13,841

Important events

63. During the year under report His Highness the Maharaja Saheb visited the school building as well as the workshop building on two separate occasions, and looked through the work very carefully. The only other important event to record for the year is that the report of the Kala-Bhavan Board of Visitors was submitted to Government in July 1917, after a year and a half's deliberation.

(h) Special Institutions

The Orphanage at Amreli.

64. The State continues to maintain one orphanage for boys at Amreli. Besides bringing up the orphans, it gives facilities of residence to the juvenile offenders of the Amreli Division. There were 62 orphan boys and 6 juvenile offenders. The orphans study first in vernacular schools and on completing that course, they are trained up in such practical arts and crafts, as will enable them to earn a living when they attain

majority and leave the orphanage. They learn weaving, carpentry, tailoring, dyeing and printing, according to their natural aptitude in the Amreli Technical School. Some serve as apprentices to local artisans, and others prosecute their studies further in English schools.

Music Schools.

65. The 5 music schools at Baroda, Pattan, Navsari, Amreli and Mehsana continued to work during the year. The hours of practice are from 6 P.M. to. 8 P.M. The total number of boys regularly learning music in these schools was 967 as against 960 of the previous year. At the annual examination, 608 appeared and 508 passed. In addition to these music schools, music as a separate subject, is taught in the three Training Colleges and in the larger of the Girls' Schools at Baroda, Navsari, Pattan, Amreli and Mehsana.

Sanskrit Schools

66. The total number of Sanskrit schools was 12, as against 14 of the last year, two Sanskrit schools being closed. Of these 4 were Government, 2 aided and 6 unaided. There were 413 students in all these schools, against 617 of the previous year. Out of these 247 appeared for examination and 159 passed. In addition to the maintenance of these schools, a sum of Rs. 5,000 is set apart every year for the encouragement of Sanskrit learning. The sum is utilized for money prizes to successful candidates, Brahmins as well as non-Brahmins, at examinations held in the month of *Shravan* every year. The test is confined to traditional methods of learning. 145 candidates appeared for the examinations and 126 passed. The amount of *dakshina* given to successful Brahmins was Rs. 3,349. The total expenditure came to Rs. 4,510.

Manual Training Classes closed.

67. During the year under report, the Manual Training classes in Primary schools remained open only for a month and then in the beginning of September 1916, they were closed

as the Drawing and Manual teachers there were ordered to go to receive training in the special Sloyd class opened at Baroda.

Deaf and Dumb Schools.

68. The total number of pupils attending the two Deaf Mute Schools at Baroda and Mehsana was 26 and 23 respectively against 30 and 21 of the preceding year. Out of the total number of 26 pupils at Baroda, 19 were boys and 7 girls. Both these schools are under the management of specially trained teachers.

Kindergarten Classes.

69. Kindergarten classes are generally attended by children of ages between 4 and 6. The number of such classes was 6, which is the same as that of the last year The total number of children attending these 6 classes was 795 as compared with 772 of the previous year. There is an increasing demand for opening more of these classes, but at present the number of infants is limited to 150 in each class. In some of these classes, satisfactory arrangements are made to feed the young children during school hours For these classes, special teachers of kind and sociable temperament are selected. The classes are particularly well equipped with appliances calculated to rouse and develop the powers of observation in the children. Montessori apparatus forms part of the equipment.

Aided Primary Schools

70. There were 21 aided Primary schools and 3 Higher Primary classes under private management during the year. The total amount of grants received by these schools came up to Rs. 1,747.

Military Schools.

71. There were 8 Military Schools (7 in Baroda and 1 at Dwarka). In the 7 Baroda Military schools, there were 257 pupils at the end of the year.

72. The Jail school, attached to Baroda Central Jail for the benefit of youthful convicts, had 21 pupils during the year. As the sentences are of short duration, no lasting benefit can be derived from attending this school unless there are continuation classes outside.

Jail School.

73. Gymnasium teachers and gymnastic apparatus were provided in 46 vernacular schools and a large number of secondary schools. Indian games are played in small primary schools under the supervision and guidance of class masters. There is an Inspector for physical education, who moves over the whole Raj and inspects the work done by the gymnasium teachers in different schools of the State. He does his work energetically and selects men, fit physically, as gymnasium teachers. The idea of placing physical culture on a systematic basis, and of importing an instructor from abroad, is under the consideration of Government.

Physical Culture

74. Attempts were made to impart the rudiments of moral and religious education to school children. One hour in a week was set apart for this purpose in all secondary schools where teachers make use of Gould's books on moral subjects. In primary schools, the book of 'Nitishikshana' written by Prof. Dhruv of the Gujrat College, is used. It contains those general principles on which all the religions of the world are founded.

Moral and Religious Education

B.—The Museum.

75. The Baroda State museum remained under the management and control of Dr. Kanga, M.A., B.Sc., L.M. & S., Director, State Museum; while Mr. S. F. Rahmin held charge of the New Picture Gallery as its Curator. The latter was allowed to remain outside Baroda for a greater part of the year.

The Museum.

76. Students of the local Colleges and the several city schools and some of the schools in the adjoining British territories accompanied by their teachers visited the Museum and freely made use of the collections of arts and sciences. The students of the Baroda College reading for the B. Sc. Examination particularly, studied the collections of Zoology, Geology and Mineralogy, &c., and the Kala-Bhavan Art students availed themselves of the exhibits in the Art Gallery. Astronomical and other science instruments were loaned out to local educational institutions.

Utility of the Museum.

77. The number of persons who visited the Museum during the year was 2,92,365 giving an average of 801 per day.

Visitors

78. A fairly large collection of Spanish and Mogul coins was acquired during the year. A fine collection of plaster work, textiles, wood work and industrial processes was also added during the year

Numismatics

79. Exhibits were loaned to the local Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition and to the Mysore Exhibition. Some articles have been given away to the Navsari Municipal Museum.

Exhibits loaned.

80. During the year 8 books in science and 3 in art were added to the already interesting collection of reference books in the Museum Library.

Library.

81. A sale room of typical samples of Baroda State arts and crafts including pottery, lacquer, metal, silver, textile and ivory inlaid works has been opened in the Museum.

Sale Room.

82. The total expenditure during the official year amounted to Rs. 19,754 as against Rs. 15,485 in the last year.

Expenditure

C.—The Libraries.

Short History.

83. The Library Department was started in the year 1910-11 at the express desire of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb as a necessary supplement to the movement of free and compulsory education of the masses started by the State several years ago.

Personnel

84. Mr. J. S. Kudalkar, M.A., LL.B., directed and controlled the whole Library Department as Curator of State Libraries; while he was assisted by Mr. Newton M. Dutt, under the designation of the State Librarian, in the supervision of the Central Library at Baroda, and by Mr. M. N. Amin, B.A., in the management of the libraries in the mofussil.

Central Library

85. The Central Library had at the end of the year a total stock of 65,091 books and manuscripts as against 59,056 of the preceding year. Among these, 59,506 were printed books and 5,585 Sanskrit manuscripts; and of these again 1,130 books and 1,765 manuscripts had remained unaccessioned on the register. The total circulation of the books was 52,768 against 61,758 of the previous year. This fall in circulation is due to two causes; (1) circulation of books had to be stopped for nearly 80 days on account of the account audit stock-taking work, and (2) issue of magazines in single numbers has been discontinued from this year. The number of "live" readers, holding cards of membership, was 3,000 against 3,297 of the preceding year. The total number of papers and periodicals subscribed for during the year was 255 against 227 of the previous year. The average number of readers who visited the reading room per day was about 526.

Ladies and Children's Branches.

86. The Mahila (Ladies') Library, which is opened as a branch of the Central Library in the Narsingji's Pole, had a total of 1,091 books, mostly Gujarati, and circulated

1,906 books among 214 readers during the year. It subscribed for 17 vernacular newspapers and periodicals which were read by 2,606 readers. The Central Library and this its Ladies' (Mahila) Branch circulated altogether 6,703 books among the ladies of the Baroda City during the year. As the number of lady readers coming to the Central Library has been going up for some time, a Special Reading Room for ladies was opened on 1st June 1917 near the Children's Room. The Children's Room was attended by 20,196 children, the average daily attendance being 75. Fourteen story hours were held and 42 cinema films were shown, the total attendance at these being 2,645 children.

Rural and Travelling Libraries

87. During the year under report there were in all 496 rural libraries (3 prant, 39 town, 454 village libraries) and 52 reading rooms as compared to 470 (3 prant, 39 town, 428 village libraries) and 62 reading rooms of the previous year. All these mofussil libraries had a total stock of 2,38,717 books, and circulated 2,10,369 books as against 1,94,470 and 2,09,688 respectively of the preceding year Very soon all the 42 town libraries in the State will have their own buildings (36 being complete and 6 under construction), and also 33 village libraries will be housed in buildings of their own (20 completed and 13 under construction). This year is important in the history of rural libraries as it marks the completion of the "Town Library Scheme" sanctioned by His Highness for giving adequate buildings to each and every town library in the State, and of supplying decent stock of standard books to each. In the completion of this the Government have altogether expended Rs. 65,159 for buildings and Rs. 12,250 for books (total Rs. 77,409). Thus there remains no town in the State which has not got a decent library building or a fair stock of books. The scheme of supplying books to the inhabitants of different villages by means of travelling libraries was carried on only during six months of the year, as the

work of withdrawing travelling library cases from circulation and of forming permanent fixed sets of books in them and of preparing and publishing the lists of these sets, which was begun last year, had to be carried on in this year. The total stock of books in the Travelling Libraries Section reached the figure 13,950. But in spite of this circumstance, 275 library cases were circulated all over the State against 248 of the preceding year. Travelling libraries were also used as usual for sending stereographs and stereoscopes to rural libraries.

Visual Instruction

88. The Visual Instruction Branch has been specially opened with a view to give instruction to the masses by means of cinema and lantern shows and by pictures like stereographs. During the year in all 153 cinema shows were given (80 in Baroda City and 73 in the four prants) and about 93,790 persons took advantage of this opportunity, as against 64,048 of the previous year. Besides these cinema shows, this branch sent out 232 sets of stereographs (consisting of about 14,391 pictures). This does not include the use of stereographs made in the Children's Room in Baroda and in the districts during the visits of the two Library Inspectors.

Expenditure

89. During the year under report the total expenditure of the entire Library Department amounted to Rs. 1,04,945 as against Rs. 1,03,096 of the previous year. This expenditure includes the expenditure made on the publication of the "Gaekwad's Oriental Series" and the consequent purchases of old and rare Sanskrit manuscripts in large numbers.

Principal events of the year.

90. This year record must be made of four noteworthy events. The first one was the visit to the Library of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon, about which reference

has been already made in this chapter. As a memento of this visit, His Highness presented to Lady Willingdon a rare copy of Monier Williams' translation of "Shakuntala" and a copy of Dhurandhar's "Picture Shakuntala" in the Indian Golden Series, with a specially illuminated binding, and the Library presented to Lady Willingdon an artistically prepared travelling library box with silver coronets and coat-of-arms of the State engraved thereon. The next important event was the Baroda Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition in January 1917, where the Library Department had a special section. The exhibits were arranged under nine groups illustrating the following phases of library-work: (1) Library Progress in Baroda, (2) Children's Library, (3) Library Architecture, (4) Library Furniture, (5) Library Appliances, (6) Book-binding, (7) Curiosities in the Book World, (8) Technical Literature and (9) Visual Instruction (Cinema, Magic-lantern, Stereoscope, etc., apparatus). The Exhibition court—52 feet by 20 feet—was crowded with several hundreds of different exhibits and made an excellent impression on nearly 1,20,000 visitors. The third important measure undertaken by the Department this year was the preparation of printed catalogue-cards for vernacular books on the lines of those prepared by the Library of Congress. The object is to supply all the State-aided libraries with uniform book-cards classified according to a standard scheme. Already sets of cards for 500 books have been supplied to different libraries in the State and other cards are being printed. Lastly may be mentioned the holding of a library-class for two months for giving training to librarians of rural libraries in the classification and cataloguing of books, in book-binding, and in office routine. This class was attended voluntarily, among others, by school-masters who are secretaries of some rural libraries, which shows that the library movement is gradually gaining ground in the State.

D.—The Press Reporter's Office.

The nature of work done in the Press Report Office

91. Although the Press Report Office is created mainly with a view to exercise censorship over the Baroda press, it also keeps the Government and the State Departments informed of views, proposals and criticisms of the local as well as of the foreign press in respect of the administration of the State.

The out-put of the Baroda press during the year was 7 weeklies, 24 periodicals and 251 books and pamphlets.

52 weekly reports on topics discussed in the weeklies and periodicals, 12 monthly reports of books and 14 special reports were submitted to the Minister.

Altogether 360 topics from newspapers and periodicals were reported as against 296 of the last year, showing an increase of 64 topics. 206 topics relating to this State were also reported from foreign newspapers as against 46 of the last year.

293 cuttings from newspapers were sent to the various departments of the State to inform them about what is being written in the Press about them.

49 warnings to the keepers of the presses for their negligence to observe the conditions of sections 5 and 6 of the Press Act were administered. No newspaper or periodical was suspended.

The tone of the Baroda Press.

92. During the year under report the tone of the Baroda press was on the whole sane and loyal to both the Baroda and the British Governments. Its criticisms of Government measures have been generally well-balanced and induced

by a sense of public duty. Its suggestions have at times been found useful. The columns of the newspapers have been always kept open for the public to ventilate their grievances and to make suggestions. The system of reporting and sending cuttings has been encouraging the newspapers and the public to take greater interest in the administration of the Government. Legal, religious, educational and municipal affairs engaged the attention of the papers and of the correspondents much more than do the administrative topics, though the papers have a tendency now-a-days to comment more on political subjects than before. The criticisms on legal, religious, educational and municipal matters have been at times somewhat strong.

Presses in the State

93. The first quarterly statement showed that altogether 26 presses were working in the whole State. 5 new declarations for opening presses in the Baroda district were made during the year, 3 of these actually started the work of printing and 1 was to have begun its work from August 1917. During the year the proprietorship of the 'Arya Sudharak Printing Press,' Baroda, changed hands and hence the new proprietor had to enter into a new declaration. One press in the Baroda district was closed by its proprietor. Thus at the end of the year 28 presses were actually working as against 26 of the preceding year, showing an increase of 2 presses. All the other districts except Baroda show neither increase nor decrease in the number of presses. Divided by districts Baroda has 17, Kadi 2, Navsari 6 and Amreli 3 presses.

Newspapers and Periodicals

94. There were 7 weeklies and 21 periodicals as against 6 weeklies and 20 periodicals in the previous year, thus showing an increase of 1 in the weeklies and 1 in the periodicals. 3 periodicals ceased to exist as per section 4 (2) being not published within 6 months from the date of publication. During the

year under report 7 new declarations were made—6 in Baroda district and 1 in Amreli district. The 'Boys' Corner' (a weekly), 'The Chandra Prakash' and The 'Girvana Bharati' (monthlies) in the Baroda district and 'Noor-e-Hidayat, (Light of Guidance), a new Moslem monthly of Amreli, commenced their publications. The publisher of the 'Kelavani' was changed, and the 'Library Miscellany' was revived by its publisher. Though the publisher of 'Brahma Bhatt' has made a declaration, it has not been published as yet. In the progress of journalism among the four districts, Baroda with 5 weeklies and 12 periodicals tops all; Amreli with 1 weekly and 5 periodicals stands second; while Navsari with 1 weekly and 3 periodicals comes third; and Kadi with only 1 periodical stands the last.

The Nature of Books

95. The total number of books and pamphlets issued from the Baroda Press during the year under report is 251 as against 284 of the last year, thus showing a decrease of 33. These can be divided by languages as follows :—

English .	24	Hindi-Gujarati .	1	Urdu . . .	18
English-Gujarati .	8	Sanskrit ..	4	Urdu-Gujarati .	3
Gujarati	173	Sanskrit-Gujarati .	5	Urdu, Gujarati and Hindi	1
Marathi .	6	Sanskrit-Hindi .	2	Polyglot .. .	1
Hindi ..	5				

English and English-Gujarati books are mainly educational texts or helps as usual. Gujarati books too are mostly of slight and ephemeral interest. Of the total of 173 Gujarati books, only 11 books possess some value. 2 Marathi and 3 Sanskrit books are important from literary and historical

points of view. English and Gujarati books can be classed as follows :—

English.

Philosophy	1	Education . ..	16	Medical	1
Religion	2	Science .	1	Miscellaneous ..	1
Agriculture	2				

Gujarati.

Philosophy and Religion	18	Useful Arts	5	Agriculture	1
Ethics	21	Music	1	Travel and Description	4
Medical	8	Literature	3	Sports .	1
Legal .	5	Poetry	16	Biography	5
Social and Communal	8	Drama	13	Miscellaneous	18
Educational .. .	24	Fiction	25		

96. Conclusion. In spite of the high prices of paper and printing materials the printing industry, judging from the number of presses, papers, periodicals and books, does not seem to have suffered during the year under report on account of the War. On the contrary there is an increase of 2 in presses, 1 in weeklies, and 1 in periodicals. The absence of any copyright protection is, to some extent, answerable for the slow advance of the printing press industry in the State.

CHAPTER IX.

MEDICAL RELIEF AND VITAL STATISTICS.

A.—Medical Relief.

(a) PERSONNEL AND PRELIMINARY DETAILS.

Personnel, etc.

1. Dr. R. N. Jadhav, the Civil Medical Officer, continued to officiate as Chief Medical Officer from the beginning of the year till July 3rd, 1917, when Dr. C. A. L. Mayer resumed charge of the office in addition to his military duties Dr. Bhatt, who was deputed to Calcutta to learn serological work and chemical analysis, was, on his return, appointed to the dual post of Chemical Analyser and Medical Storekeeper Dr. Pradhan was appointed as an extra Probationer Medical Officer by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. The Department lost one of its officers by the premature death of Dr. Mazumdar.

The Lady Superintendent, who was granted 8 months' combined leave, resumed her duties on 7th December 1916.

Inspection

2. During the year 35 institutions were inspected.

Expenditure

3. The total expenditure of the Department was Rs. 3,15,540 against Rs. 3,02,952 in the preceding year, the increase being due to War prices. The total income realised was Rs. 52,204 against Rs. 15,900 in the previous year.

The prescription charges and fees received from paying patients amounted to Rs. 3,464 against Rs. 3,066 in the previous year.

Contributions

4. The Khangi Department contributed a sum of Rs. 16,612 for the maintenance of the Palace and Motibag dispensaries, the Military Department Rs. 11,823 for the Military medical institutions and the Beyt Devasthan Fund provided Rs. 1,043 for the Beyt Dispensary.

Permanent institutions

5. The total number of permanent medical institutions remained at 59 with the ratio of one institution to 36,954 of population.

Details of patients.

6. The total number of patients treated during the year was 4,56,623 (1,93,275 males, 85,695 females and 1,77,653 children). Out of these 4,52,081 were out-door and 4,542 in-door patients. The average daily attendance of the former was 4,910·4 and of the latter 304·67. Of the in-patients 3,016 were discharged as cured, 1,058 were relieved or discharged otherwise, 189 died and 279 remained under treatment at the end of the year. The percentage of deaths among in-patients was 4·1 against 4·2 of the year before As before, the Baroda Division contributed the highest percentage as regards patients treated, *viz.*, 73·7, while Kadi contributed 28·6, Navsari 13·9 and Amreli 11·4 Of the total number of patients treated 79·7 were Hindus, 15·8 Mahomedans, 1·5 Parsees and 2·7 of other castes.

Operations.

7. During the year, 23,030 surgical operations were performed on 22,909 persons with a mortality of 0·2 per cent. The mean number of surgical operations performed during the triennium was 23,510 against 17,984 in the preceding triennium. The average number of persons operated on during the triennial

period of 1916-17, 1915-16 and 1914-15 was 22,785 with a mortality of 0·2 per cent. as compared with 17,984 and a mortality of 0·1 per cent. during 1913-14, 1912-13 and 1911-12.

The removal of tumours and cysts accounted for 146 operations with 2 deaths against 150 with 1 death in 1915-16.

Amputations numbered 49 with 2 deaths as compared with 68 with 2 deaths in 1915-16.

Operations on the eye numbered 873, of which 78 were for extraction of the lens for cataract as compared with 105 in 1915-16 Vesical Calculi were removed by Litholaplaxy in 9 cases against 16 in 1915-16, the percentage of mortality for the triennial period being 2·0. Suprapubic Lithotomy was resorted to in 11 cases with 1 death against 8 with no death in 1915-16. Perineal Lithotomy was resorted to in 1 case with no death.

Abdominal operations, other than those for diseases peculiar to women, numbered 159 with 21 deaths against 137 with 8 deaths in 1915-16; while for diseases peculiar to women, the numbers were 21 with 5 deaths as compared with 13 with 2 deaths in 1915-16.

Operations for radical cure of Hernia, including cases of Strangulated Hernia, numbered 25 with 7 deaths against 29 with no death in 1915-16. Those for abscess of liver numbered 16 with 7 deaths against 10 with 1 death in 1915-16.

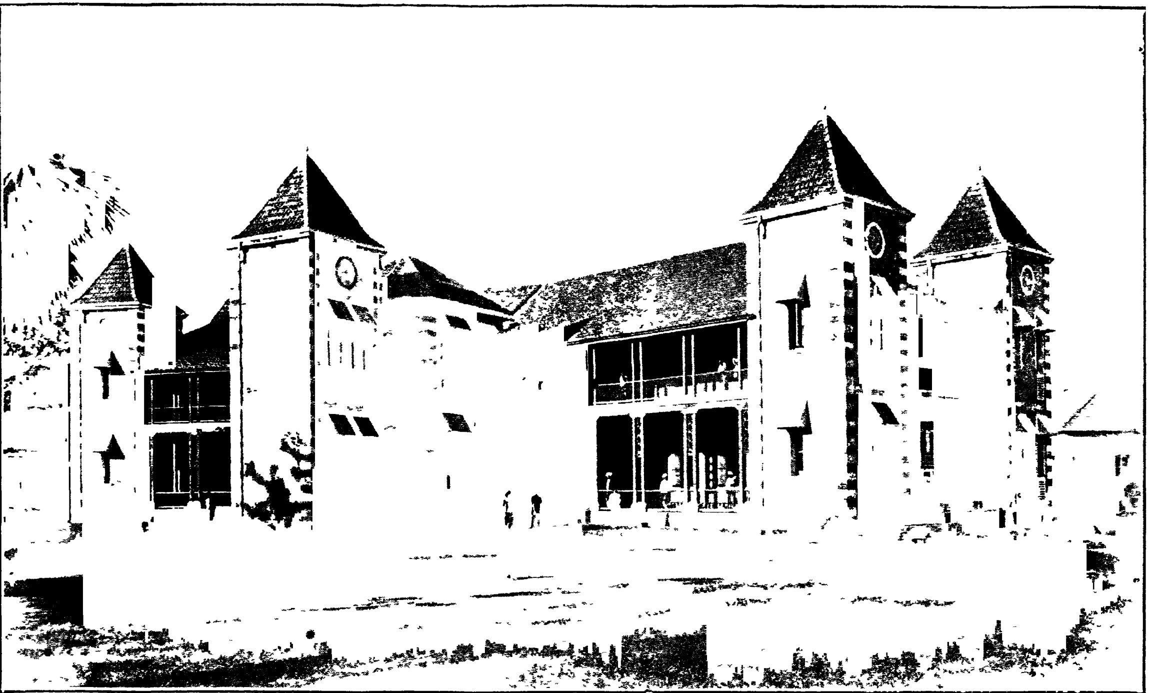
Obstetric operations

8. 148 obstetric operations were performed with 8 deaths, against 123 with 3 deaths in the previous year. This included 10 operations for Cæsarean Section with 1 death against 3 with 2 deaths in 1915-16 and 4 with 1 death in 1914-15.

Common diseases

9. The most common diseases, for which patients received medical aid at the Civil and Military Hospitals and Dispensaries during the year, are noted in the following table :—

Names of Diseases	1915-16	1916-17.
Malarial fever	69,918	77,976
Diseases of the Eye	56,842	58,411
Do Skin	34,913	35,221
Do Ear	27,369	27,798
Do Respiratory System	23,575	20,600
Injuries	13,214	14,115
Rheumatic affections	10 192	9,723
Diseases of the Nervous System	11,489	10,664
Do Worms .	10,373	11,716
Dyspepsia . . .	11,209	11,894
Diarrhœa .	9,749	9,368
Dysentery .	6,675	7,157
Venereal Diseases . ..	5,990	5,981
Diseases of the Nose	1,553	1,593
Tubercular Diseases	1,250	1,009



THE NEW HOSPITAL, BARODA, OPENED BY H. E. LORD WILLINGDON, GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY,

(b) THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN HOSPITAL.

Staff.

10. During the absence of Dr. Mayer on field service, Dr. P. T. Patel acted as Principal Medical Officer. Dr. Manilal L. Parikh was House Surgeon throughout the year and Dr. Emma Smith visited the female wards at this hospital daily in addition to her duties at the Jamnabai Dispensary. Dr Pranlal Nanavati continued to work as State Bacteriologist.

Opening of the new buildings

11. The new hospital buildings were opened in State by H E. Lord Willingdon, the Governor of Bombay, on 23rd February, 1917.

Attendance and operations.

12. The daily average attendance of in-door and out-door patients was 95·9 and 244·8 against 87·0 and 216 2 of the last year. The number of selected major operations performed was 358 against 350 in the previous year (according to revised nomenclature).

Bacteriological work

13. In the Bacteriological Laboratory 1,944 specimens were examined and reported on against 1,781 in the last year; and 87 skiagrams were taken against 146 of the preceding year, while 27 patients were treated by electro-therapy.

Expenditure

14. The net expenditure of the institution excluding that of medicines, instruments, &c., was Rs. 81,649 against Rs. 54,830 in the preceding year.

Increased popularity of the hospital.

15. Owing to insufficiency of beds, patients had constantly to be refused admission. But this complaint will soon cease when the new hospital buildings, which were formally declared open during the year, are ready for use with all fittings. The increased popularity of the hospital and the willingness of patients to submit to

operations were largely due to the success of operations performed and to the efficiency of the Nursing Staff.

(c) THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Number of inmates

16. The total number of lunatics treated at the Asylum during the year was 89 against 47 in the previous year. Of the total number of lunatics 29 were discharged cured, 10 were relieved, 2 died and 48 remained under treatment.

Expenditure

17. The total expenditure in connection with the institution was Rs 5,702 against Rs. 5,210 in the preceding year.

(d) THE LEPER ASYLUM.

Number of inmates

18. The total number of lepers treated was 169 against 183 in the previous year. Of these, 82 absented themselves, 5 died, and 82 remained under treatment. Of these, 28 suffered from the Anæsthetic form and 49 from the mixed form. Five children of leprous parents were under observation, out of whom 3 developed signs of the disease

The Leper Act could not be strictly enforced and patients frequently absconded from the Asylum for want of proper protection to the building The question of walling it was under consideration.

Expenditure

19. The total expenditure was Rs. 9,738 against Rs. 10,780 the year before.

(e) THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY AND THE MEDICAL STORES.

Analyser and Storekeeper

20. Since his return from Calcutta, Dr. V. M. Bhatt has held charge of the Laboratory and the Stores.

21. One hundred and eight medico-legal cases, involving the separate analyses of 466 different articles, were investigated. Besides these there were 6 cases of miscellaneous nature. Out of 54 cases of suspected human poisoning some poison was detected in 20, opium being the most common poison.

Work done

In addition to the work above mentioned several preparations made in the Medical Stores, Baroda, were tested and standardised in the Laboratory.

Expenditure of the Laboratory.

22. The total expenditure of the institution amounted to Rs. 2,020 against Rs. 1,705 of the preceding year.

Expenditure on drugs, etc.

23 The amount actually expended during the year on the purchase of drugs, instruments, etc., came to Rs. 74,385, and stock at the end of the year, at fixed Medical Store prices, was valued at Rs. 98,116 against Rs. 63,262 the year before.

(*f*) THE CENTRAL JAIL HOSPITAL.

Personnel

24. Dr. Dhanjibhai Mehta acted as Jail Medical Officer and Superintendent till 6th May 1917 when Dr. A. D. Cooper succeeded him.

Patients treated

25. The total number of prisoners treated during the year was 389 against 443 in the preceding year. All these were in-patients, of whom 381 were discharged cured, 1 relieved, 3 died and 4 remained under treatment at the close of the year.

Rate of mortality.

26. The rate of mortality among the jail population was 5·4 as compared with 10·9 of the preceding year, which is less than the average death-rate obtaining in the Bombay Presidency jails.

Operations

27. The total number of surgical operations performed during the year was 113 against 207 during the previous year; of these 1 was major, as compared with 15 in the previous year.

Inspection.

28. The Inspector-General of Prisons paid 3 visits to the Jail Hospital.

(g) Midwifery

In Baroda City.

29. The total number of labour cases attended by the City Midwife was 115 against 223 during the previous year; of these 94 were normal. The total expenditure on account of the maintenance of the midwife and her establishment amounted to Rs. 938 against Rs. 1,208 in the previous year

In the districts.

30. The tabular statement given below shows the number of labour cases conducted by the midwives in various district hospitals and dispensaries. --

Number of labour cases	Names of hospitals and dispensaries
50	Amreli Civil Hospital
49	Dabhoi Dispensary
45	Kathore do
39	Billimora do
36	Navsari Civil Hospital
35	Sidhpur Dispensary
31	Pattan Civil Hospital
22	Kadi do do
17	Petlad Dispensary
12	Mehsana Hospital
11	Vellachha Dispensary

(h) AMBULANCE, NURSING AND HOME HYGIENE.

Lectures

31. A series of lectures on Ambulance, Nursing and Home Hygiene was delivered by different Medical Officers, and examinations were held in these subjects. 153 out of 240 candidates were successful in the Ambulance examination, 63 out of 89 in Home Nursing, (out of whom 38 were ladies) and 49 out of 87 in Home Hygiene.

Dr Dhunjibhai's work

32. Dr. Dhanjibhai Mehta continued his campaign of popular lectures on First-aid and other allied subjects of Hygiene and Nursing to the public at large.

(i) EPIDEMICS

The Plague

33. The table below shows the number of plague cases and deaths in different districts during the year under report and in the preceding year :—

Places	1915-16		1916-17	
	Attacks	Deaths.	Attacks	Deaths
Baroda City .	46	31	14	13
Baroda District	77	34	227	149
Kadi do ..	10	6	12	5
Navsari do .	167	108	811	641
Amreli do .	3	..	10	6

The percentage of deaths was 74·8 against 61·9 of the previous year. The number of plague-infected towns and villages was 45, against 22 during the previous year.

34. The total number of cholera cases recorded during the year was 1,935 against 3,432 in the previous year. Of these, 1,083 proved fatal giving a death-rate of 55·9 per cent. The epidemic made its appearance in various towns and talukas as shown in the following table:—

Cholera.

Months	Names of places
August 1916	Baroda City, Baroda Taluka, Petlad, Sojitra, Dabhoi, Chandod, Sankheda, Karjan, Bhadran, Vaghodia, Padra, Navsari, Gandevi, Chanasma, Kamrej and Vellacha
September 1916	Sidhpur, Kalol, Pattan, Mehsana, Visnagar, Harij and Okhamandal
October 1916	Tilakwada, Kheralu and Mahuva
January 1917	Songhad
June 1917 .. .	Petlad

B.—Vital Statistics, etc.

(a) SANITATION.

35. Dr. A. D. Cooper worked as Sanitary Commissioner upto 6th March 1917, when he was succeeded by Dr. Sumant B. Mehta.

Personnel

36. This officer was required to perform the following duties:—

Duties

(1) Supervision over sanitation and annual inspection of Municipal and Vishishtha Punchayat Offices.

(2) Registration of births and deaths.

(3) Vaccination.

(4) Popularising sanitation through lectures, and exhibitions.

(5) Record of meteorological observations.

Inspection

37. During the year, altogether 178 days were spent in the districts for inspection work and other duties; 32 towns and 58 villages were visited and suggestions for improvements were made to the Municipalities and Vishishtha Punchyats concerned.

Dr A. D. Cooper visited 9 places for cholera arrangements and Dr. Sumant visited Kathore for plague work.

Lectures and other work

38. A series of ten lectures on Home Hygiene was delivered by Dr. Cooper to candidates desiring to appear for the examination. These lectures were illustrated by diagrams and lantern slides.

At every town and village, public or private meetings were held, almost all well attended, where subjects of sanitation and of Local Self-Government were explained. At district towns such meetings were overflowingly attended.

At Navsari a Sanitary Exhibition was organised and kept open for four days, one day being kept apart for ladies only.

Dr Sumant attended the Local Self-Government Conference held at Poona in order to study the developments in British India.

The attention of the District Municipalities and Vishishtha Punchayats was principally directed towards the purity of water of wells, tanks and rivers, prompt removal of human and animal excreta and their safe disposal in places set apart for the purpose, the provision of urinals and public latrines, the opening out of crowded portions in towns and villages,

the discontinuance of pit-prives and introduction of house-to-house conservancy where possible. Schools, libraries, hospitals, dispensaries and hostels were also visited and the attention of the officers concerned was drawn, wherever necessary, with a view to improvement in sanitary conditions.

(b) Vital Statistics.

Number of births and deaths

39. The number of births and deaths in the State during the year under report and the preceding three years is shown in the following table :—

Year	Number of births	Number of deaths.	Births per mille of population	Deaths per mille of population
1913-14	62,968	50 552	31 0	24 9
1914-15	62,279	46,317	30 6	22 8
1915-16	63 860	47,582	31 4	23 4
1916-17	62 778	54 205	30 9	26 7

It will appear from these figures that there was a decrease of 1,082 births and an increase of 6,623 deaths over the numbers of the preceding year The cause of decrease in births was due to defective registration and the increase in deaths to the prevalence of fever, small-pox and plague during the year.

Vital percentage

40. Of the total number of births, there were 33,301 males and 29.477 females, that is for every hundred female births 112·9 male births were registered Similarly of the total number of deaths, 28,839 were of males and 25.366 of females. or for every hundred female deaths 113·6 male deaths were registered.

As a general rule, there is a higher ratio of mortality amongst males than amongst females owing to the harder struggle for existence as mentioned in previous reports.

Causes of deaths.

41. Of the total number of deaths, 37,138 were due to fever, 859 to plague, 1,313 to cholera, 2,543 to small-pox, 1,450 to dysentery and diarrhœa, 2,859 to cough, 251 to pneumonia, 746 to consumption, 568 to injuries of various kinds and accidents and 6,478 to other causes. The head of "Respiratory Diseases" in the death register has been cancelled and three heads, *viz.*, cough, pneumonia and consumption were substituted during the year.

The ratios per mille of population per annum for the above deaths were, fever 18·3, plague 0·4, cholera 0·6, small-pox 1·2, dysentery 0·7, cough 1·4, pneumonia 0 1, consumption 0·3, injuries 0 2 and other causes 3·1.

It will be seen from these figures that fever deaths predominated over those from other diseases, the reason of which, as mentioned in previous annual reports, was that the registration of deaths is in the hands of non-professional men and consequently many deaths were returned under the head of fever simply because that complaint was the prominent symptom of many acute and chronic diseases. The total number of attacks and deaths from plague and cholera during the year were 1,074 and 814 for plague and 1,935 and 1,083 for cholera.

(c) VACCINATION.

Compulsory Vaccination Act

42. There was no change in the strength of the Vaccination Department. The provisional sanction in connection with the Compulsory Vaccination Act in the City of Baroda expired by the end of the year under report; and proposals for making vaccination compulsory as a permanent measure were before Government.

Number of persons vaccinated

43. The following table gives the number of persons primarily vaccinated and re-vaccinated during the year under report as compared with that of the previous year :—

Persons	Primary vaccination		Re-vaccination	
	1916–17	1915–16	1916–17	1915–16
Males	32,737	34,353	1 156	664
Females	30,631	32,216	265	200
Total	63,368	66,569	1,421	864

The total number of persons operated on during the year under report was 64,789 against 67,433 in the preceding year. Thus there was a decrease of 2,644 operations on the whole, as vaccination outside the city of Baroda depended entirely on persuasion.

The number of successful primary vaccinations was 61,039 and the rate of protection afforded per mille of population per annum was 30·0 against 31·1 in the preceding year, a satisfactory result of the introduction of glycerinated lymph from Belgaum in the whole State.

Vaccination fees

44. Fees were charged for vaccinating children at their homes; and the aggregate realization of such fees was Rs. 526 against Rs. 457 in the previous year.

Expenditure

45. The total expenditure on account of vaccination during the year was Rs. 22,771 against Rs. 21,547 during the previous year and the average cost of each successful vaccine operation was As. 5-11. The increase in the expenditure was chiefly due to the full time appointment of Vaccination Inspectors

(d) METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Temperature in Baroda City.

46. There is a second-class meteorological station in the Baroda City. The results of the readings taken in the Observatory during the year showed that the maximum temperature, 107°, was recorded in April 1917, and the minimum temperature, 48°, in December 1916. Barometer average monthly records were highest, 29·895, in January 1917, and lowest, 29·478, in July 1917.

Winds

47. The prevailing winds during the greater part of the year had a south-westerly and north-westerly component. The average daily velocity of wind varied from 53 in February 1917 to 241 in July 1917, and the average daily velocity for the year was 114 miles. The average daily humidity was 48 against 42 in the previous year.

Highest and lowest temperatures in the State

48. The highest temperature recorded in the year was 110° at Mehsana Dispensary in the month of April 1917, and the lowest 39° at Kheralu in December 1916.

Rainfall

49. The highest rainfall was 83 inches and 39 cents at Vyara and the lowest 12 inches and 86 cents at Dwarka.

(e) MISCELLANEOUS.

Miscellaneous

50. (1) The distribution of quinine has been re-organised and larger quantities will be supplied hereafter on lines carefully laid out.

(2) Medical inspection of some school children, with treatment, and after-care Committee, was organised and suggestions were before Government for extending the work to all the taluka towns.

(3) Proposals were made for organising physical culture for school children, but the question has been held over pending the arrival of an expert from America.

(4) The Sanitary Museum has been gradually improved.

(5) A Committee was appointed to suggest methods of sanitary supervision over dairies, but its work was not complete at the close of the year.

(6) A small Committee has been working to find out the number of very old and infirm people who lack means of subsistence This work was also under progress.

(7) With the co-operation of the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Sanitary Commissioner has worked out a scheme for reclamation of criminals on their release from jail and it was under consideration of Government. An after-care society for providing released convicts with honest means of livelihood is being formed.

The Times Press, Bombay—3289 18